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THE HORSE CONGRESS.

In these latter days, when the powers abroad desire to put in practice a new dogma in the science of government, an International Congress is called, and the idea promulgated; when two or more of these same nations, adopting the bayonet as their platform of principles, have depleted the treasury, destroyed the national credit, carried sorrow and desolation to the hearts and firesides of thousands, and wish for a *dignified* mode of backing out, then a Peace Congress is sought as the means of exit. "Brother Jonathan," however, has hitherto reversed this order of affairs. Our doctrines were born, bred, and sent out to the conflict of thought by the "sovereign people," and when anxious for a "wordy war," the Representatives gathered in the city of "magnificent distances," and sounded the slogan. It has become fashionable to hold meetings with this special designation upon matters, important or unimportant, (the latest application has a Southern prefix,) and as we "may as well be out of the world as out of fashion," we bring before Rural readers one worthy of scrutiny and careful consideration,—A Horse Congress, with Delegates from the Four Quarters of the Globe.

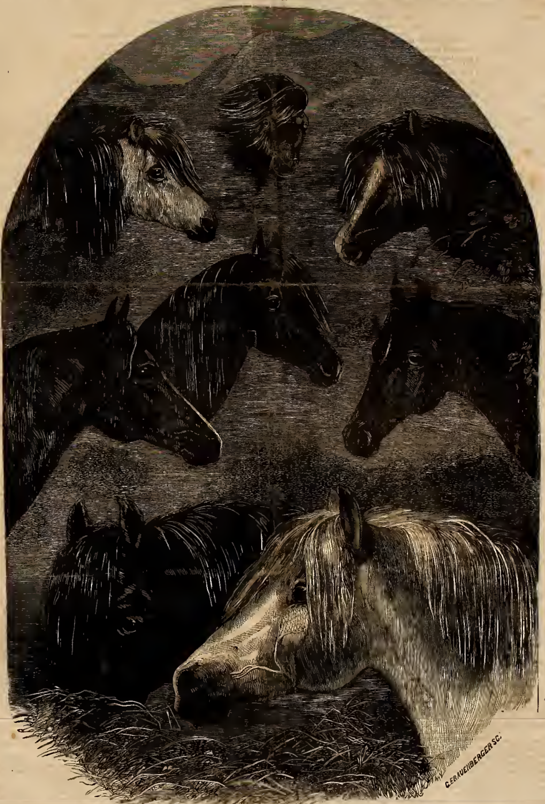
The central figure, at the upper portion of the engraving, is a true representative of the *Shetland* race, unquestionably the most remarkable of all European ponies. These are to be found in all the northern Scottish isles, but the most diminutive, and at the same time the most perfect, are natives of the extreme northern isles of Yell and Unst. The average height of the Shetlander is nine or ten hands, and none are considered truly bred which exceed eleven hands,—three feet eight inches. Many are found which do not exceed thirty or thirty-two inches, and are, consequently, inferior in size to some of the largest Newfoundland dogs. The hardiness of these little fellows is remarkable. Henry William Herbert says, "out of many hundreds which we have seen,—sometimes in droves of fifty or sixty at a time, traveling down from their native moors and mountains, the raggedest, rustiest, most comical-looking little quadrupeds ever eye dwelt upon, driven by a gigantic six-foot Highlander, perched upon the back, perhaps, of the smallest of the number,—we never saw a lame Shetlander." In their native isles they run as wild as the sheep, never herded, sheltered, nor fed; picking up a livelihood from the tender shoots of the heather, and the coarse grasses growing among it. Even when domesticated they fare but little better. Oats are unknown to them, and a few bundles of meadow-hay, or barley straw, is a perfect banquet. Their speed is not great, but they will cover considerable ground under a load of 150 to 200 pounds. With a great hulking Highlander on his back,—apparently better fitted to carry the pony, than the pony to carry him,—he will accomplish fifty miles between sunrise and sunset. The colors of the Shetlanders are generally black, dark brown, and a sort of rust-colored sorrel. Whites and grays [illegible], and blacks are considered the best of the race.

The *Scotch Pony* is *first cousin* to the gentleman we have just described, and is his neighbor, on the left of our engraving. This pony is an enlarged pattern of the Shetlander. He preserves the general form, the close barrel, strong loins, stocky air and build, but he has a larger neck, higher withers, and finer hair in the mane and tail. His ordinary height is from eleven to thirteen hands. The Scotch pony is the second step to an English boy's education in the art of horsemanship, as they often possess a fair turn of speed, can leap very cleverly, have all the endurance, with greater strength, greater quickness, and more showy action, than their smaller countrymen. The *vis a vis* of our Scotch friend is a genuine *Canadian*, as his countenance readily indicates. In this country they are often classed among the pony races, but if we adopt the English standard for height, their position is among the horses, the place assigned anything over thirteen hands. The Canadian horse, where there is no cross of the English thorough-bred, is undoubtedly of French Norman origin. His characteristics are a head rather large, but lean, bony, and well formed; very broad forehead, ears well apart, and carried loftily; small, clear eye, and courageous aspect; bold, upstanding, but thick crest; a broad, full chest, and a strong shoulder; a stout, strongly-framed barrel, (somewhat flatsided is very apt to be a fault in this point); excellent loins; muscular thighs; flat-boned legs; and feet, for toughness and hardiness, not to be equaled. Immunity from disease of the legs and feet, is a marked quality in the French Canadian, even when ill-groomed, ill-shod, and subject to every hardship. An intelligent writer, well versed in the peculiarities of this particular race, states that "there are numbers of horses in Canada which, under a mass of shaggy hair, never trimmed, and rarely cleaned or dried, possess dry, sinewy legs, on which the severest service never raise a wind-gall. The prevailing color of the Canadian is black; next, rich dark brown. When true-bred, they are remarkable for the great volume of their manes and tails, with the wavy texture of the hairs composing them; for the shaggy coating of their back sinews nearly to the knee, and of their fetlocks. From fourteen to fourteen and a half hands is their usual size. Their powers of endurance are excellent, for though not reckoned speedy, they will travel fifty miles daily for a considerable period."

Notwithstanding the repute in which Canadian horses are held by those best calculated to judge of their merits, it is a remarkable fact that, even in these days of agricultural progress, no systematic attempts have been made to improve this breed in a pure form. Quite a number of experiments by crossing have been carried through, and with great success. The authority we have heretofore quoted, gives it as his opinion that "no race probably is more susceptible of direct improvement than this; and, as their excellence is universally acknowledged, both as the small, poor farmer's working and draught horse, for which they are adapted above all American breeds, and as brood mares, from which to raise highly improved and useful and general working roadster, by breeding them to thorough-breds, it is evident that this is an end most devoutly to be wished."

The central figure represents the *Oriental* blood of the desert, originating, it is thought, in the mixture of the various countries to which the horse in its purest form has, from time immemorial, been indigenous. To this breed of horses are the English indebted for the unrivaled excellence of their racers, which are the offspring of a judicious cross of the Orientals. The countries from which an Oriental strain of blood is obtainable, are Arabia, Syria, Persia, Turkistan, the Barbary States, Nubia, and Abyssinia. The form of the Arabian will not please every judge of the horse, but none will deny the beauty of the head. Broad and square forehead, short and fine muzzle, prominent and brilliant eye, small ears, and the beautiful course of the veins, always characterise the head of the Arabian horse. The shoulder, in this breed, is generally unexcelled. The withers are high, the shoulder-blade inclined backward, and so nicely adjusted that in descending a hill the edge never ruffles the skin. The body is considered light, and chest narrow, but behind the arms the barrel swells out, leaving sufficient room for the lungs. The Arabian is seldom more than fourteen hands two inches in height.

Just below the Arabian we have, on the left, the *Hunter* or *Trotter*, and on the right the


C. ERAUENBERGER SC.

SCOTCH PONY.
THE HUNTER, OR TROTTER.
FARMER'S BROOD MARE.

SHETLAND PONY.
ARABIAN.

CANADIAN.
THOROUGH-BRED.
DRAUGHT HORSE — CLYDESDALE.

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Thorough-bred. "The English thorough-bred,—with which the American is identical,"—says Herbert, "contains a larger proportion of Barb than pure Arabian blood," and to one or the other of these, doubtless, may be traced the origin of the trotter.

The *Clydesdales* are represented at the base of our engraving, by the right hand figure. These horses are found most extensively in the neighborhood of the Clyde river, in Scotland, after which they are called, where their services in the one-horse carts of the districts are well appreciated. Indeed, there is no description of horse that appears better adapted for single horse carts, or that can get through more work in the course of the day. They are for the most part powerful horses, standing about sixteen hands high, and are extremely active. Their faults are a tendency to light bodies and long legs; and some of them are hot workers. When free from these defects, they are certainly a most valuable kind of animal for agricultural purposes. As regards their origin, we are told that an Earl of Huntingdon imported some Dutch mares, a breed once much thought of, into the district of the Clyde, and being crossed with the native breed, (probably the ancient pack-horse,) thus became the founders of the now highly appreciated Clydesdale. The prevailing color is black; but there are also many browns, and some grays. These horses are susceptible of much improvement, by careful selection in breeding, and avoiding the evils which we have pointed out as those to which the breed are prone.

We come now to the *Farmers' Brood Mare*,—the left lower figure of our picture,—and though we cannot say whether royal or plebian blood flow in her veins,—whether she is of high or low degree,—there is a *good* look about her which calls up memories of "lang syne," when she carried us after the cows, or took the grist to mill. We never thought of her pedigree,—she possessed kindness and gentleness, with a dignity of movement becoming her years, and was not that enough to fill the heart and win the affection of a boy? We thought so then,—we think so yet,—and he who could turn out upon the road to starve the noble animal which had so carefully borne his Johnnys and Tommys, in her palmier day, because she can no longer satisfy his cupidity, has a lump of silex in his bosom.

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THE DAIRY.—NO. V.

THE COW AND HER KEEPER.

The conclusion to be arrived at from Mr. Horsfall's experiments, is the important fact that it is in the power of the dairyman to so feed his cows that they will maintain their condition and a full flow of milk at the same time, and that the highest value of the cow is only obtained by supplying her with special food, rich in the elements which constitute the valuable portion of her product.

We further find that the essential element of success consists in properly blending this food, cooking, and feeding it warm to the animal, which in winter should be kept in a warm stable. I neglected to state in the last number, that he keeps his cows in stables where the temperature is kept at 60°, as near as possible.

His system of high-feeding combines the advantages of the dairy and stall-feeding, as he does not permit his cows to lose condition, but, on the contrary, compels a gain until they go out fat to the butcher. In this process, he usually keeps a cow from one to three years.

But the question very properly arises, can his plan be adopted by all farmers with equal success? To this I answer, very decidedly, that it cannot; for everything depends upon location. Near cities or large towns, where there is a ready market for beef at all times, as well as for milk and butter, it would no doubt pay to adopt a plan of high-feeding as he has done, but in the larger portion of the dairy region, a modification will be required. Thus, where grain cannot be grown to advantage, as in many of the more elevated dairy regions, or where, by reason of expensive transportation, it could not be had at remunerating rates, high-feeding would not be desirable. Still it would be well to consider whether an improvement upon the present system could not be made. In the winter keeping, in particular, very many farmers everywhere, who keep stock, could imitate Mr. Horsfall in the keeping of their animals in warm and well ventilated stables. So important do I consider warmth to a cow in winter, that unless I could keep her in a stable where the manure would not freeze in cold weather, I would not keep one at all.

Again, the steaming of food, and feeding it warm, is another important consideration, and one that no farmer, who has any considerable number of cows, can overlook without a total disregard of profit. If the cow be well kept in the winter, she accumulates in her increased condition, a surplus of material which, when she comes into milk, will help to keep up the increased flow far beyond what one that has been kept lean can do. The difference in the yield of milk from a cow that has had generous keeping through the winter, and one that but barely comes out in the spring lean, with scarcely strength to get up alone, can only be appreciated by those who have tried the experiment. My own opinion is, that the increased product of the one is equal to the full value of the other, when they both come to the pail. So well is this understood by experienced dairymen, that they expend large sums of money to procure grain for the winter feed of their cows. Summer feeding may not pay, yet I have found it customary among those farmers who were making the most profit from their cows, to prepare for feeding their cows with grain food as soon as their pastures began to fail, and the favorite food for this purpose seems to be Indian corn, sown broad-cast. It has been shown that whatever will assist the cow in obtaining the requisite amount of food at the proper times, will abundantly recompense the owner, and he is a serious loser if he neglect to make that provision.

Where corn cannot be grown with profit, roots and cabbages can, and a supply of green food can be kept up with little expense until the dairy season is over. And roots can be cultivated to advantage in every locality where good grass grows, and where corn is not a safe or reliable crop. But to make the winter feeding of roots profitable, warmth is indispensable.

It is truly gratifying to notice the improvement in barns and stables that are now being built in all sections of the State. Perhaps some of the best can be found in Lewis County. There are barns and stables in that County which, for convenience, and for protection to the animal, cannot be matched in the most favored portions of the State. But model barns are by no means confined to that County. They can be found through the whole dairy range, and their frequency is a trusty and safe indication of the prosperous condition of the community around them. Still there is yet a sad neglect by the dairyman in this important department of his business.

Said a successful dairyman, whose herd consisted of some 80 cows, "I am never satisfied, unless, when I pull off my boots at night, and put on my slippers, and sit down by the fire, I feel that my cows are as comfortable as I am." And this, I apprehend, is the key to the profitable wintering of our cows and other stock.

Special rules are not proposed to be given, but only suggestions drawn from a few important facts. To be successful with the cow, she must be at all times well fed with proper food, and in winter, furnished with warm shelter, dry and well ventilated, and in summer an extra supply of food must be prepared to supply her wants when the pasturage fails. In other words, so treat your cow that you will feel she is comfortable and happy, and she will fill your pail, and, what is quite as well, your pockets.—P.

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MINNESOTA—SOIL, CLIMATE, &c.

Messrs. Editors:—In the Rural New-Yorker of March 9th, I saw a notice that in one stable, near St. Paul, six horses were frozen to death in one night. The injury done to this State by the press East, in publishing such humbuge about the severity of the winters, is enormous, and, with your permission, I would like to give through your paper a few facts about Minnesota, obtained from a four years residence, to all those who contemplate emigrating West.

Four years ago this spring I left "old Chautauqua," New York, for this State, and took a farm from "Uncle Sam" of 300 acres, all prairie, at government price. Most people from a timbered country, when they get here, are afraid of our naked prairies, and will select their farms among the groves of oak brush and grubs, with now and then a tree; but experience soon teaches them their mistake. The expense of grubbing, and preparing the land for the breaking plow, is from five to ten dollars per acre; that expense saved, by taking clear prairie, will fence it with a good post and board fence, as good fencing (pine) can be had for $10 per thousand feet, and oak posts for from $3 to $4 per one hundred.

Good prairie land, near timber and water, and on good roads leading to the river towns, can be had for from $3 to $5 per acre, and wood land for fuel, from $5 to $10 dollars per acre. The soil for the main part consists of a black sandy loam, with a clay subsoil. One man with a good team will, with a 12-inch plow, turn over one acre of the sod in a day, with ease, or you can hire it done for $3 per acre. The proper time for breaking is from the first of June till the middle of July. The spring following you can put in your crop with or without plowing again, as you see fit.

Wheat and Wool are to be the great staple products of Minnesota, and probably no State in the Union is as well adapted to either pursuit. The last year's wheat crop of this State excels any thing of the kind on record, and places Minnesota at the head. Our wheat weighs on an average 63 lbs., and the average yield is set down at 30 bushels per acre. The varieties of spring wheat, known as Boesic and Scotch Fife, seem to succeed best in this vicinity. The corn crop through this section ranges from 30 to 50 bushels per acre. All varieties, except the Southern Dent, are raised here, and mature well if planted by the first of June. Oats are heavy, and yield well. I have always had 50 to 60, and sometimes 65 bushels per acre, but I think the average should be put at about 40 bushels per acre. We get in some cases as high as 60 bushels of barley, but not often. Our Potatoes are the finest I ever ate, seldom rotting, and yielding well. Our surplus grain finds a market in Milwaukee and St. Louis. The last season, freight on wheat to Milwaukee was 20 cts. per bushel, including all expenses. When we get our railroad through to Lake Superior, we shall have another market to depend on, and shall feel ourselves one hundred and fifty miles nearer the seaboard.

The raising of stock of all kinds can be successfully prosecuted, with an abundance of pasturage free from cost, and hay put into stacks at a net cost of $1,50 per ton. The climate is peculiarly adapted to the growing of wool. The winters being dry, still and cold, with seldom any rain from early fall till spring, the sheep are healthy, with heavy fleeces. Judging from the past four years, I am very much pleased with the climate, there being more pleasant weather, and less severe storms, than at any point in which I have resided, having lived in Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Northern, Southern and Western New-York. When I left New York, I expected to be frozen every winter, and blown back to Dunkirk every summer; but here I am, never having frozen even the "tip" of an ear, and perfectly satisfied with climate, soil, and locality. The homestead law of the State is very gracious, allowing a man 80 acres of land, with all improvements, all household goods, all farming implements, one yoke of oxen, and one horse, or one span of horses, 3 cows, 10 swine, 20 sheep, forage for same for one year, and food for family one year; free from all liabilities, except on mortgage given for purchase money. As Mr. John Johnston is good authority, I would like to ask him if he calls January lambs at shearing time that weigh from 90 to 100 pounds, as good as his will average? My sheep are Leicesters, and we have all our lambs come in January, February, and March, and have never lost one in consequence of the cold. A neighbor has sheared, from yearlings, 9 pounds and 10 pounds of washed wool, and from his imported "Lester" buck, 22 pounds of two year's growth of clip. But, as this is already much longer than I intended, I will close.

Eagle Prairie, Goodhue Co., Minn., 1861. J. D. Wheat.

Remarks.—If we were at fault in innocently giving a two-line item of news relative to the supposed effects of the weather upon horses in Minnesota, we trust the publication of the above commendation of the soil and climate of that young and thriving State, will procure our full absolution. We certainly had no thought of injuring the State or its people, and think the course of the Rural heretofore ought to free it of any such design as that intimated by our respected correspondent.

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PRACTICAL SERMONS ON SHORT TEXTS.

"Every kernel of grain and every ounce of meal taken from the farm removes what the soil cannot continue to spare without ultimate barrenness."—H. T. Brooks.

Under the present system of American farming, there is a fair prospect of the above somewhat sweeping and illogical assertion becoming transformed into a fact. Constituted as our country is, we must continue to depend on our exports of agricultural productions for many years to come, as our only legitimate means of obtaining wealth, and through that wealth the luxurious comforts of modern life. It is literally "root hog or die" with us.

Rather than frighten the farmers with the bugbear of "prospective sterility," I would say, keep more stock *well*, and raise more grain *better*. To keep the stock well, raise more roots and grass; to raise more roots and grass, apply more manure, and better cultivation to the soil.

It has been stated in many of the agricultural journals, that the climate of America is not adapted to root crops—being too hot and dry. We, in Canada, at least, do not find it so, except in the case of the common white, or English turnip. Our main dependence for roots is on the purple top Swede turnip, or ruta-baga, and the crop of this root, wherever any fair amount of attention and care has been bestowed upon it, has been so great that it is found to pay even where used upon the farm to feed the stock in order to add to the manure heap, not doled out grudgingly like meal, but given at the rate of from one to three bushels per diem to each head of cattle. Let any man who is ambitious of being considered an enlightened farmer, try the experiment of raising a few acres of ruta-bagas, applying the manure in the unfermented state at the rate of from fifty to seventy cart-loads per acre, and give a liberal supply of seed, say three pounds per acre, to make sure against the fly, keeping the horse-hoe busy all summer, and he will ever afterwards look upon it as one of the staple crops of the farm. The main point in successful farming is to have a plentiful supply of good manure, manufactured on the farm, and applied to the grain crops through the medium of a fallow crop. J. M.

Hamilton, C. W., 1861.

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CORN STALKS FOR FODDER.

In the Rural of Feb. 2d, I noticed an article taken from the *Germantown Telegraph*, in reference to the winter care of cattle. The writer states—referring to cutting up his stalks for feed,—"My cattle eat it up *clean, hard buts, stalks, and all*, and one ordinary bundle of fodder—such as would be generally given to a steer at one meal—lasts an animal a whole day." He further adds, "I can winter ten head of cattle on cut fodder now, where I only wintered five head last year."

From these statements I concluded that it would be well to make a trial of so cheap a plan to economize in feed, especially, as I stabled my stock, and had the proper troughs for feeding. A patent straw and stalk cutter was brought into requisition, two nine bundles of stalks selected, run through the cutter, and the cut feed placed in the feed troughs for four head of cattle. They were then placed in their stalls, and I retired to figure out how much longer my stalks would last by this new method. The next morning I was somewhat surprised to find nearly one-half the stalks remaining. Thinking they might have objected to the *length*, I cut them *finer*, and added to each mess two quarts of meal. Even this would not answer,—the meal and leaves were selected out, the rest left. I next wet the stalks, and mixed the meal with them. Rather than eat the "hard buts and stalks," they would *leave the meal* which adhered to them, deeming the pay too small to compensate for such a disagreeable job. My experiment ended here, with the conclusion, that if cattle will eat corn stalks, they must be prepared in some other way, or else starved to it.

Another advantage, "my manure is all short," and yet his cattle eat them up *clean*. I can hardly reconcile the two statements.

If any one beside the writer in the *Germantown Telegraph* has succeeded in making his cattle eat corn stalks, "hard buts and all," by simply cutting them up, and has found that they did not require more than *one-half* the amount when fed in this way ~~to keep them in better order~~, I should like to know it,—the way managed—the cutter used—the length cut—whether the stalks were raised from corn sown or planted, and any other fact which may throw light on the subject, and dispel the clouds of *unbelief* which at present surround it. Rusticus.

Meadow Brook Homestead, Cayuga Co., N. Y., 1861.

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Rural Spirit of the Press.

Feeding Horses—A Common Mistake.

The *Southern Homestead* says that, "The practice of regulating the food of horses by the amount of work they are required to perform, is a good one if properly followed. For example, a horse when lying comparatively idle, as in winter, should have less solid food than amid the hard work of spring and summer. Again, if a horse is about to perform a work of extra labor, it is well to fortify him with a little extra feeding beforehand. But the mistake we refer to is the practice of over-feeding him an hour or so before putting him to work. If an extra service is required of a horse on any particular day, and an extra feed is to be given him, let him have it the evening beforehand, rather than in the morning, an hour or two before being put to work. Why so? Because if he is put to work so soon after eating, his food does not become digested, and he is obliged to carry about with him a large mass of undigested fodder, which is rather a burden than a help to him. If he is well fed the evening before, the food is assimilated—changed to flesh and blood—and sends health and vigor through all the system. As a general rule, a working horse should be fed regularly, both as to the time and the amount.

Should we Wash our Sheep?

A writer in the *Ohio Farmer* has opened the discussion, and takes the unpopular, (judging from custom,) or *negative* side of the question. Let Rural readers consider his arguments, and then let us hear their views, *pro or con*. He propounds the query, and then answers:

"Humanity, at least, says *No!* With the natural fear a sheep has for water, it must be cruel to subject them to such treatment as they sometimes get by the process familiarly called 'washing'; yet, in truth, it is not only a detriment to the wool, but to the sheep. We take it for granted, that what is good for the health of man in the way of care, holds good with the sheep; and who among all our shepherds would think of following his sheep home from a mill pond, without a change of clothes, when sometimes it is cold enough to make his teeth chatter. How can we then expect it to benefit our sheep, especially when we have a week's rainy weather just after washing, and very often, in this climate, it is cold and unhealthy for man and beast. Yet some will say it does the sheep no harm; but facts prove that this is not the case—both your sheep and lambs suffer materially. But this is only one feature. *It costs a great deal of time and money*, which could be applied to a better use in cultivating our spring crop. It is no trifle to wash three thousand sheep every year.

But the most potent argument in favor of not washing our sheep is, we can shear from three to four weeks sooner, and thus give the more time after shearing for the growth of wool, to protect them from the fall rains and from the cold in winter, which is no inconsiderable item. How often do we delay washing on account of the water being too cold, when the weather is abundantly warm to shear. The sheep will not suffer with the cold in May, if they are cared for during the three days immediately after shearing. We would gain one sixth more clothing, to protect our sheep from the cold of winter, besides a stronger constitution and a healthier sheep, than if we had frozen our sheep in May, by washing them.

Finally, *manufacturers would rather have the wool unwashed*. They have to re-wash it after us; why not let them do their own washing, and then if it is not well done, they will know who to complain of. One-half of the wool in some sections of country where they have no clear running water, is actually damaged by the attempt to wash it on the back. It is made a bug-bear of in market, and thus the producer is forced to take less than his wool is really worth. Wool-growers! we stand in our own light upon this subject. But taking unwashed wool to market cannot be practiced by one here and there. It must be a general reform. How then shall we best and most directly get at it? It can be done by 'County Organizations.' Shall we make the attempt? By so doing we shall practice humanity, save labor, save time and money, improve our sheep, benefit ourselves, and benefit the manufacturer."

Fork vs. Spade.

The time honored spade is falling into disgrace. Look at yonder son of Erin as he drives the shining blade into the moist loam, and heaves out a square compressed mass, two sides of which are smooth and compressed as possible. If you are standing near or working by his side, he will hit it a rap and crumble the top of it a little, while the mass probably remains intact. The ground will be leveled off with a rake, and the lumps will bake slowly, and remain likely enough, hard and impervious all summer, if the ground is not deeply worked again. When spading is done in very dry weather, it is not liable to the same objection in degree, yet it leaves the soil always more or less lumpy.

How different it is with the use of the fork. The spading fork is found of various forms in the shop. We prefer one of narrow tines, rather long and very thick, made of good steel. A good quality of steel is very important, for often a single tine striking a stone or stick, has to take instantly the whole force of the blow or shove. The tines should be thick, as considerable prying power is often required; and they should be narrow, that the earth may be no more compressed than is necessary. A fork like this may be driven much deeper with the same force. It will lift the earth quite as well as a spade, and without packing it. If roots of trees, bulbs, or anything of the kind are present, there is little probability that they will be injured, if care is used, and the ground may be loosened sufficiently in many cases without lifting the earth at all, in a way to bare the roots.

The fork, in fact, may be used wherever the spade can be, and a shovel is not more desirable—we do not claim for it superiority in shoveling sand or gravel—and it may be used in many places where a spade cannot be used. About trees, in raspberry, currant or vine-borders, especially, will the fork be found of incalculable service, and the spade should be banished forthwith. So says the *Connecticut Homestead*.

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Inquiries and Answers.

Draining Spade.—Can you inform me, through the columns of your paper, where I can procure a narrow spade, or "graft," as the English call it, made expressly for tile draining, and at what price?—G. N. Lawrence, *Vernon, N. Y.*, 1861.

There has been so little call for these spades that manufacturers, we think, have not generally made them. They are manufactured to order in this city, but we do not find them exposed for sale. It is about time that manufacturers got up a supply of all draining tools, as the demand is now good, and will be constantly increasing.

Culture of Parsnips.—Will you, or some of your subscribers, inform me, through the Rural, of the best mode of cultivating parsnips, whether sward ground is adapted to their growth? Also, whether they will bear transplanting; and, again at what time should they be planted?—A. S. Harrington, *Berodine, N. Y.*, 1861.

We would not plant parsnips on sod ground, unless we were compelled to do so. It would be better to have parsnips follow corn or potatoes. The parsnip requires a deep, well pulverized soil. Sow in drills about eighteen inches apart, just as soon as the ground can be got ready. Frost will not hurt the parsnip. Thin out in the rows, so the plants will stand six or eight inches apart. Where labor is dear and scarce, they may be planted far enough apart to admit the use of the cultivator one way. If the seed is fresh, it will readily germinate.

Fatality among Calves—Inflammation of the Liver.—My calves are dying off, and I cannot determine the nature of the disease, nor find a remedy. Their feed has been plenty of good hay. They are fat, strong, and in good condition, until taken with the disease. Symptoms as follows—They are taken with trembling and shivering all over. The first one affected was taken in the night, was found dead in the morning, and badly bloated. The next, I presume, died immediately after being taken, as he was perfectly well at night, and dead in the morning. He appeared to have died in great distress, with the head thrown straight back to the shoulder, and ruptured inwardly. On examination, found their galls yellow, with very little in them. Can you, or any of your readers, tell me the disease, the remedy, and a preventive?—T. O'Brien, *Scio, Alleg. Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

It is probable that the difficulties mentioned by our correspondent arise from a diseased condition of the liver. Dr. Dadd gives the following mode of treatment where this organ is suffering from inflammation:

"The most rational method of treating this disease, is to endeavor to mitigate the inflammatory diathesis, and restore the normal functions of the liver. In view of accomplishing these desirable results, I recommend the following prescription.—Glauber Salts, 16 ounces; Powdered Mandrake, 2 drachms. The salts should be dissolved in one quart of tepid water; then add the mandrake, and drench the animal by means of a common porter bottle. This drench should be poured down the œsophagus, in a gradual manner, so as to prevent its being received into the rumen, or paunch. The patient should, if possible, be dieted on green fodder; if such cannot be procured, some sliced cabbages, turnips, or carrots, may be substituted. A teaspoonful of mandrake should be given daily in the food, until the visible surfaces assume their natural color. A curable case will generally yield under the above treatment."

Stretches in Sheep.—Can you or any of your readers give me a recipe for the cure of *stretches* in sheep. For two or three winters past I have had more or less sheep die by this disease, and I would be very thankful for some information on the subject.—E. C., *Owasco, N. Y.*, 1861.

The last issue of the Rural contained a remedy for this disease, furnished by a correspondent, and we now give the treatment recommended by Mr. Morrell, in his *American Shepherd*.

This disease very commonly occurs in flocks which are kept exclusively on hay, or other dry food, and is fatal very often, unless an early application of medicine follows the attack.

Symptoms.—The sheep will alternately lie down and rise at brief intervals, frequently stretching, and refuses every kind of food. It is now generally admitted that it proceeds from *costiveness*, by being deprived wholly of green food. The disease is unknown in Great Britain, where succulent provender is so bountifully fed.

Treatment.—Two tablespoonfuls of castor oil, or one ounce of Epsom salts, will be effectual. A small quantity of hog's lard has also been used with success. A neighbor administers a large quid of tobacco, and he recently informed the writer that he had never lost a sheep by the stretches after administering this nauseous potion.

Preventive.—Give the flock green food once a week or oftener—such as apples, potatoes, or turnips. Pine or hemlock boughs are also excellent.

Rural Notes and Items.

The Season—*Wheat Crop, &c.*—The weather of the last two weeks of March was quite unfavorable for wheat throughout this region, especially that on heavy soils. We hear complaints of the wheat being injured by heaving of the ground in some localities, while the crop generally has an unpromising appearance. An intelligent Ohio farmer—Frank Granger, Esq., of Toledo—who has recently been visiting friends in this county, informs us that, as far as his observation has extended, our wheat crop looks poor indeed, compared with that of Northwestern Ohio. But we trust more favorable weather will revive the crop as the season advances, so that, if the wheat-midge scourge has passed, (as many confidently believe,) a profitable yield will be obtained. The comparatively heavy fall of snow on Monday (from four to six inches in this locality,) will prove beneficial to wheat, though many regard the storm as an unfavorable opening of April. The lateness of the arrival of warm, seasonable weather will of course retard out-door operations, and farmers may be obliged to push on the spring work, when once commenced, with unusual energy. However, we may yet have plenty of favorable weather to perform all operations properly and in season.

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What of the Crop Prospects?—If our friends at a distance—in all the States, Canada, &c.—will advise us as to the prospects of the leading crops, they will confer a favor, and perchance thereby enable us to impart information which will prove of great value to producers. If some plan could be adopted whereby its growers could be informed of the amount of wheat likely to be harvested, the producers of that important cereal could make calculations for themselves, and not be subject to the dictation of middle men. The recent advices relative to the unfavorable prospect of the winter grain of Europe, indicate an increased foreign demand for our breadstuffs, and hence the prospect and probable yield in this country must be regarded with importance, both at home and abroad. In writing, please state the condition and prospects (compared with last season) of the staple products of your section, with such risks or enemies to the crops as are anticipated before harvest.

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Plant Shade Trees—*A Good Example.*—Now is the time to plant out shade trees. Residents of both country and town can easily increase the attractiveness and value of their homesteads by a trifling expenditure at this season. Farmers should plant a few shade and ornamental trees,—about and in front of their dwellings, at least,—for the benefit of their families and friends, to say nothing of the duty incumbent upon all good citizens to aid in rendering their locality more beautiful in the eyes of both friends and strangers. And every one who has a village homestead should surround it with appropriate trees and shrubbery. In some of our villages societies have been formed to encourage this praiseworthy object by associated effort—an example worthy of imitation all over the land. And here is another good example by a worthy citizen of Palmyra—a man of taste and means. We learn that Carlton H. Rogers, Esq., offers to present a horse-chestnut tree to every Palmyran who will plant and protect it as a shade tree. Mr. R. has purchased four hundred trees for the purpose. How many village capitalists will enhance the public weal by doing likewise?

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Medina Union Ag. Society.—We have inadvertently omitted to notice the recent proceedings of this spirited and very progressive organization. At the late annual meeting the following officers were elected for 1861: *President*—Volney A. Acer, Shelby. *Vice President*—G. C. Cook, Ridgeway. *Rec. Secretary*—S. C. Bowen, Medina. *Cor. Secretary*—Wm. Hoag, Ridgeway. *Treasurer*—W. W. Potter, Medina. *Directors*—Dr. A. B. Edmonds, and Messrs. Berdwell and Scott. The Society is in a flourishing condition—having an increased amount in the treasury, after paying all expenses of last year. It originally embraced only two towns—Ridgeway and Shelby—but nine towns were added last year, and now the Society has decided to "annex" all of Orleans, Genesee and Niagara counties, three towns in Erie, and that portion of Monroe Co. bordering upon Orleans. Our Medina friends are spreading themselves in proportion to their strength and enterprise. The Western N. Y. Ag'l and Hort'l Association will do well to look to its territorial rights.

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Victory Ag. Society.—At the annual meeting of the Victory (Cayuga Co.) Ag. Society, it was resolved that the entries at the next Annual Fair shall be free, and the premiums honorary. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year. *President*—Bryson Stickerman. *Vice Presidents*—Benjamin Jakway, Ephraim Cummings, Hiram Hiseredt, B. W. Telford, Matthias Hager. *Rec. Secretary*—S. Hiram Plumb. *Cor. Secretary*—Isaac Lockwood. *Treasurer*—Walter H. Sayre. *Executive Committee*—Harvey S. Harris, Smith Benedict, Chauncey O. Kimball.

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Grain in Canada.—The good crops produced in Canada last season have made better times in both Provinces. Though much of the surplus has been sold by the farmers, it has not yet been shipped to market. A late Montreal paper says—"We are informed that the amount of grain, flour, and other agricultural produce, accumulated in storehouses, in Upper and Lower Canada, ready for transportation, as ascertained by insurances effected thereon with the various offices doing business in Canada, greatly exceeds the largest quantity ever known in previous years. We also hear that arrangements have been made at the American Lake ports to ship largely by the St. Lawrence route. Forwarders will have a busy time when navigation opens.

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Sorghum in Iowa.—In a recent letter, Mr. Rodman Lewis, of Van Buren Co., Iowa, writes:—"As we are accused of having nearly all of the Sorghum this side of the Mississippi, we want all the information we can get about manufacturing to the best advantage. I helped make about 2,000 gallons of molasses last fall. Of some forty different lots, I noticed that the cane that was turned a little yellow at the joints, and was well trimmed, made the best molasses. The top joint should be all cut off, as there are frequently large quantities of plant lice lodged on it between the leaf stalk and the seed stalk."

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Valuable Hint about Underdraining.—At a recent Legislative Agricultural meeting in Boston, Mr. Shedd, an agricultural engineer, said "he had drained a lot in Milton where there was only two inches of fall in the quarter of a mile, and the drain worked well. If there is a fall of three inches to the hundred feet in land, a tile drain of two inches diameter, with forty feet apart, four feet deep, will take off all the water, and he would guarantee it would work satisfactorily. All soils resting on a tenacious subsoil, can be advantageously drained."

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Early Sowing at the West.—While shivering from the effects of a cold blustering snow storm, on this first day of April, we have the pleasure of reading that the farmers west of Fox River, Wis., were putting in their grain two weeks ago. Also, that "the farmers of the Southern tier of counties in Minnesota, have commenced sowing wheat. A large proportion of the crop of Fillmore Co. is already in the ground."

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Early Vegetables.—The editor of the Lockport Journal has just been luxuriating upon fresh vegetables grown in a hot-bed by Mr. H. McCollum, of that village—viz., "a cucumber seven inches long, together with pie-plant, asparagus, lettuce and radishes."

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A Simple Cure for Scratches is given by J. C. Stewart, of Framingham, Mass., in the *N. E. Farmer*. He says he has always succeeded in curing scratches in horses by a few applications of molasses.

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Orleans Co. Market Fair.—The Orleans Co. Ag. Society holds its first Market Fair for the season April 6th—on the Fair Grounds in Albion.

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A Word in Season.—The large number of persons who have written us letters in praise of the Rural during the past three months—and the thousands of others who believe it worthy of encouragement for the good it is accomplishing in families and communities—are reminded that *the present* is a favorable season to increase its circulation and usefulness, and that any and every effort in that direction will be gratefully appreciated. Please read our inducements on last page.

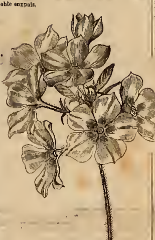
HORTICULTURAL.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

ANNUALS AND THEIR CULTURE.

Those who commence a flower garden most mainly depend upon annuals for blossoms and beauty the first season, though there are some biennial plants that will flower the first year. We have already given directions for sowing the seed, and it is now only necessary to refer readers to our remarks in the **Rural** for February 23d. These, we hope, will be carefully studied, for on their observance depends in a great measure the success of the season. It is very easy to grow plants from seed, and it is just as easy to fail and lose our seed and labor. As soon as the young plants make their appearance, lighten the earth around them and destroy all weeds. If they are too thick, which is most likely to be the case, remove a portion to other beds, which should be prepared for this purpose, and remove them when quite small, as young plants always injure each other by growing crowded. Select a showery day, if possible, for this work, and remove the plants with as little injury to the roots as possible. When the ground is wet, plants can generally be taken up with a portion of the earth adhering to the roots, in which case they will receive but little check by the removal. Nothing is now needed but to keep the ground mellow, and all weeds destroyed.

Most of our popular annuals have been greatly improved within the last few years, and are now worthy the attention of every lover of flowers. Only a short time since, the Aster was a poor, single, or at best, a semi-double flower, with quilled petals, having a rough, unsightly appearance; while now the Aster is one of our most beautiful autumn flowers, as double as the Peony, or the Chrysanthemum, and almost as beautiful as the Rose. Without further introduction, we will name a few of the most desirable annuals.

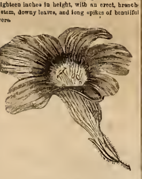


PHLOX DRUMMONDII.

Phlox Drummondii is at least one of the most beautiful. It is now grown of almost every desirable color, from the most brilliant scarlet, to the delicate rose; while the newer varieties are of every shade of purple and blue, with a white eye, and striped. The variety of colors thus displayed in a bed of these flowers, must be seen to be appreciated, and when once seen is not easily forgotten. We know of no floral display more beautiful. If sown about the 1st of May, they will be in bloom in July, and will continue in bloom nearly the whole of the summer.

The Balsam, or Lady's Slipper, as it is sometimes called, is a beautiful and showy flower. Only the double sorts are worthy of cultivation. They require a warm and rich soil, and will grow, under favorable circumstances, two feet high. The new varieties, called by the French, *Camellia*, or *Rose* Balsams, are perfectly double. The objection to this flower is, that the leaves conceal the blooms, and the side shoots hide the center shoot, so that half the flowers cannot be seen. But if the soil is enriched with liquid manure just as the buds are forming, it will wonderfully enlarge the flowers at the expense of the foliage. In this way, we have made the branches appear like wreaths of flowers. Another plan we have pursued, is to pluck off the side shoots, allowing only the main shoot to grow. We hope our readers will try these modes of treating the Balsam.

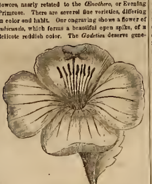
The Ten Week Stock is one of the best of the Annuals, and is of every variety of color, from white to the darkest purple and brown. Plants should be transplanted to where they are to bloom, as soon as they show the third pair of leaves. They have a long tap root, something like a carrot, and unless transplanted young, receive a check from which they seldom recover. They grow from a foot to eighteen inches in height, with an erect, branching stem, downy leaves, and long spikes of beautiful flowers.



SALPIGLOSSIS.

Salpiglossis.—There are many varieties of this flower, differing only in color and size, some being dwarfish in their habit. The flowers are funnel shaped, like the Petunia, but not so broad. We generally sow them about the first of May, where they are to flower, and in July they are in full bloom. We find them to flourish best on a light, dry soil. It is a native of Chile, and was first introduced into Europe in 1824.

The Godetia is a very interesting family of flowers, nearly related to the *Œnothera*, or Evening Primrose. There are several fine varieties, differing in color and habit. Our engraving shows a flower of *rubicunda*, which forms a beautiful open spike, of a delicate reddish color. The *Godetias* deserve general cultivation on account of their profusion of flowers and delicate colors. They are becoming general favorites. We have this spring obtained seeds of several varieties which we have not seen in flower.

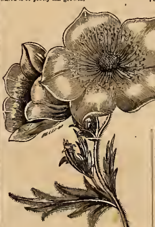


GODETIA.

The Portulacca is a succulent plant that flourishes in the hottest, driest weather, and on the sandiest soil. They are of almost every shade of yellow and red, and white and striped. They have an exceedingly brilliant lustre, dazzling to the eye in the sunlight. When once planted, they seldom require replanting, as they grow like weeds, particularly on a sandy soil. The Portulacca may be sown where it is to flower, or may be transplanted at any time.

The China Aster.—At the first introduction of this flower from China, in 1730, they were single, and there were but two colors, red and white. The Germans have taken great pains to improve this flower, and the fine sorts were for a long time called German Asters. The French, have, however, of late years, taken precedence of the Germans in the improvement of the Aster. There are now eight or ten exceedingly fine varieties, and every year adds to the list. They are called *Chrysanthemum-flowered*, *Peony-flowered*, *Ranunculus-flowered*, &c., from their resemblance to those flowers. The Aster, we consider one of our very best autumn flowers. It bears transplanting well, and indeed forms stronger plants with better flowers when transplanted, than if allowed to remain where the seed is sown.

The Annual Larkspurs have been great favorites for more than two centuries. The *Double Dwarf Rocket* is of a compact habit of growth, and its flowers are set thickly around a stem, forming a fine spike of bloom. It requires a rich soil to grow to perfection, and there are few plants that will better repay good culture. The seed should be sown in drills, where the plants are intended to blossom, as they will not bear transplanting. From their compact habit of growth, they require but little room, and may grow within two or three inches of each other, and produce the best effect when grown in masses. The *Dwarf Hyacinth Flowered* is an excellent variety, and so is the *Double Stock Flowered*, which is of pretty tall growth.



GOLDEN BARTONIA.

The Golden Bartonia is truly a most brilliant flower. We give Dr. Lindley's very accurate description. "It is only beneath the bright sunshine that its splendid flowers unfold. In the early morning the plant is a shabby bush, with pale greenish-grey branches, and weedy leaves; but as the sun exercises his influence, the petals gradually unroll as if in acknowledgement of his power, till every branch is radiant with gold; and so metallic is the lustre of the inside of its petals that one would really think they must be composed of something more solid and enduring than the delicate and perishing tissue of a flower." It was brought from California in 1835. The seed should be sown in a rich, moist soil, and in a sheltered situation, as the branches are very brittle, and easily broken by the wind.

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CRANBERRY CULTURE.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—As Mr. Whitmer has made some inquiries through your paper in regard to *Cranberry Culture*, I will, with your permission, answer them through the same medium.

In speaking of his success with about two hundred plants, he says, "Some of my vines grew three feet in length last summer, and in the fall I picked thirty well grown berries from the vines I planted last May. Has any beat that?" From a piece of land four by five rods square, which I set in the spring, I picked in the fall a half bushel of fine berries, part of which took the first premium at the State Fair in 1858. Some of the vines bore four or five large and perfect berries each.

Had Mr. W. properly prepared his ground, he would not have had much use for the hoe. He should have pared off the sod to a sufficient depth to have removed all grass roots. I take vines from one to four feet in length, and plant them in drills from eighteen to twenty inches apart, covering lightly every six or eight inches, where they take root and new vines are formed. It is not unusual for vines to grow from three to four feet in one season.

It is not necessary to flood a meadow, but I would recommend it where convenient, as it has a tendency to check the growth of weeds and grass, and also to destroy the Cranberry Moth, which sometimes get into meadows, and injure them. The water may be turned on in the fall after picking, and remain until there is no danger of frost in the spring.

To "A Subscriber," I would say, that his half acre of swamp can be made profitable if properly prepared, and set with good *bearing* vines. There are vines that look thrifty, and grow well, but *never* bear. "The most certain method of obtaining productive plants of the best varieties, is to take them from places where they are known to be the kind you wish to cultivate," as is truly stated in Starr's Cranberry Culturist. As the cranberry is an evergreen, and late starting vine, the months of May and June is a suitable time for setting. They will grow and bear in the shade, but the fruit will not ripen as well as in the sun. Noble Hill.

Caton, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1861.

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JOTTINGS OF EXPERIENCE.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—You call upon farmers to write for their paper. Here are a few jottings.

To keep trees from being barked by rabbits, bind a handful of straw, (rye is best,) about the trees. This is very quickly done, and is a *sure protection* from rabbits, and a positive benefit to the trees, both winter and summer.

Five years ago last spring I set out 50 standard pear trees, and the following winter had 18 of the best killed in two nights by rabbits. Had I then known of this simple remedy, I should now have had a fine orchard. All that were not killed have borne, and some of them three times. Picked 1½ bushels of finest Virgalieus I ever saw, from one tree last fall. Many other trees not so large, were equally full. Have manured them with barn-yard manure, leached ashes, and *beef scraps*. The trees have made large growth and appear perfectly healthy.

About four years ago the bark louse attacked one of my old orchards of six acres, and I lost about 20 trees, and the others were fast dying. After trimming off the dead limbs and giving them a good scraping, I tried an experiment on two rows of Greenings, which were the worst. Procured in the spring of 1859, a quantity of beef scraps, and dug them in about the roots. The next year they made an astonishing growth and bore a good crop. The leaves were the deepest green till *hard* frost; very different from the last few years, when they were a sickly yellow. I had before scraped my trees and washed them in soap and lye. F. D.

Near Toledo, O., 1861.

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ROOT-PRUNING STRAWBERRIES.

Last spring I obtained from a nursery some plants of Triomphe de Gand strawberries. The roots were very long, not longer, perhaps, than is usual where the soil is such as to allow them to run as deep as they please; but of greater length than I had ever seen, indeed,—so long that it was really difficult with a garden trowel to make places in a well spaded bed deep enough to admit them (as I suppose they should be planted) entire. Notwithstanding the utmost care in setting to keep the roots straight, and to pack the mold securely about them, and a subsequent liberal use of the watering-pot to keep them moist, half or more of the plants died; not more than a fourth made a vigorous, healthy growth. In August I took up a large number of well-rooted runners of different kinds of strawberries, and before re-setting, reduced the tops generally to one leaf, and cut off, perhaps, a third, sometimes half the length of the roots. With much less care than was given them set in the spring, these latter plants lived and made a fine growth during the autumn. I can attribute the difference to no other cause than the fact, that in one case the plants were root-pruned, in the other, not. A.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

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Inquiries and Answers.

Planting Apple Seeds—(*J. Q. R., Newark, N. J.*)—The variety raised from seed might be very much unlike the apple from which the seed was taken, and we don't think the kind of stock it was grown upon would affect the seed in the least. If so, then pear trees grown from seed of dwarf trees must partake of the character of the quince.

Strawberries.—I want to know how this plant is propagated, or grown, by your nurserymen—from seeds or runners?—G.

From runners, always; unless they wish to obtain a new variety.

Cranberry Culture.—The question in regard to cranberries just hits my case. Only, where can the roots or plants be procured? Also state whether the climate is adapted for them in Madison Co., N. Y.—B. E. Phelps, *Bouckville, N. Y.*, 1861.

Your climate is all right. For plants, see advertisements in the Rural.

Pruning Shears—Preserving Grafts.—Will the editor, or some of the readers of the Rural, please inform me where I can purchase a pair of shears suitable for clipping scions from the higher limbs of bearing fruit trees? Also, the best method of preserving the scions in good order, during the spring months, whilst traveling in the Southern States engrafting orchards?—T. H., *Fostoria, Seneca Co., O.*

Suitable pruning shears can be obtained at any of the dealers in agricultural and horticultural implements. Perhaps some of our readers can tell us a good way to preserve scions while traveling, so that they will not shrivel, nor the buds start.

Guano for Apple Seeds.—Will you please give, through your columns, your opinion as to the best mode of applying guano to ground intended for apple seed, and the quantity per acre? Would it be apt to injure the sprouting seed if applied broadcast, after the seeds are sown? Also, the quantity per acre, and best mode of application for quince stock.—A Subscriber, *Rochester, N. Y.*, 1861.

We would just break up the ground, and then sow the guano broadcast, at the rate of about three hundred pounds to the acre. After sowing, it should be well mixed with the soil by dragging, cultivation, or some effective method. If sown after the seed, it would be very likely to do injury, that is, if you used good Peruvian guano.

Carnations.—The Carnations we have in this country at our nurseries and in our gardens, don't seem to answer the descriptions of this flower given in foreign journals. Nor do we grow them good from seed. What is the cause?—Amateur.

Our climate is not well suited to this flower. This we are compelled to admit, and we despair of ever growing it as it is grown in Europe. Our summers are too hot and dry, and our winters too severe. We have often tried what should have been the best English and French seed without obtaining even a passable flower. If some one would make a specialty of the Carnation, we think something valuable would be the result. We would at least learn what can be done here with that charming flower.

Horticultural Notes.

Catalogues Received.—From Ernst Benary, Erfurt, Prussia, Annual Catalogue of Flower, Tree, Vegetable, and Agricultural Seeds, with several beautifully colored plates of flowers.

— From Vilmorin, Andrieux & Co., Paris, France, Catalogue of Flower Seeds, Plants, &c. Also an illustrated descriptive Catalogue of Plants with Ornamental Foliage.

— From J. Knox, Pittsburgh, Pa., Catalogue of Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, Currants, and other small fruits, cultivated at the Knox Fruit and Farm Nurseries, Pittsburgh.

An Experiment at Grafting.—I tried an experiment two years ago, by grafting apples on pears, and the root of the apple. The grafts were taken from bearing trees. After the grafts were of sufficient growth, I enclosed rich mold around them, so that they took root from the grafts the spring following. I separated them from the stock, reserving only the roots that sprang from the grafts, and transplanted them. They are doing well. The question is, will they bear in due time, and remain dwarfs by proper management? Can you, or any of the numerous readers of the Rural, tell.

I grafted the Siberian Crab on the root of a bearing apple tree. I transplanted it the spring following. This season, the third year after grafting, it yielded a good quantity of fruit for its size. It is a beautiful dwarf.—D. C. Hawn, *Fort Plain, N. Y.*, 1861.

We cannot imagine that this process will make the tree dwarfish in its habits.

Domestic Economy.

BUCKWHEAT CAKES ECLIPSED.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I would like to say to the inquirer concerning buckwheat cakes, saleratus, &c., that we have found a better and more wholesome flour for cakes. Perhaps you have used what we call the brown flour, and prefer buckwheat, but if you have never tried it, and are of our opinion, you will not wish for sweeter and more wholesome cakes. Winter wheat, or good spring wheat, ground into unbolted flour, makes the best of food, and in the manner we use ours mostly, avoid the saleratus. We take sweet milk and stir in the flour without sifting, to about the thickness of drop cake; drop the batter into patty tins, or muffin rings, and bake in a quick oven. We eat them warm, always steaming the cold cakes. We do not use saleratus with them at all, and you are unlike us, if, on trial, you do not pronounce them sweet, delicious, wholesome, and superior to all other kinds of bread. Eaten with butter or cream and sugar, or with sirup or honey, they can't be beat. Do please try them, and give your opinion.

Fine flour is used too exclusively as an article of food, and while the coarser grains are so much more sweet and wholesome, it is a pity they are not more generally used. Farmer's Wife.

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Rag Mats.—I am not a very old lady, but perhaps I can give Prudence some information in regard to "rag mats." My plan is this:—Take any kind of woolen or delaine rags, of bright colors, cut them bias about one inch in width, gather them through the center with strong thread, then take a piece of canvas or bagging the size you want for the mat, and mark with a piece of chalk the form of the stems. Make the basket, or whatever it is, first, then make the stems of some drab color, then the flowers, with green leaves mixed around pretty well, then fill out with black. Great care must be taken not to get the rags gathered too closely. 'Tis very pretty when done.—Chippeboot, *Palmyra, N. Y.*, 1861.

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Fresh Maple Molasses.—A correspondent of *Field Notes* gives the following:—Maple molasses well made and put up in cans, right from the kettle, and hermetically sealed, as you would can and seal fruits, will keep as fresh as when first boiled from the sap, and this is decidedly the best plan for keeping, as when made in cakes, if exposed to the air, it will lose somewhat of the peculiarly delightful flavor for which it is so prized, and is often injured by insects. All this is obviated by canning while hot. To many families who do not make on a large scale, this need be but little expense, as the cans that have been emptied through the winter can be used until autumn fruits demand them again. Put up your best in this way. Where large quantities are made for market, the buyers must select and can for themselves.

◆

Boiled Indian Pudding.—The "day of pancakes" has nearly expired, and I would be greatly obliged if some experienced housewife would inform us how to make a good boiled Indian pudding—such as *our* mothers used to put into a bag and boil in that huge "old dinner pot"—there has been so much *game* made of late, with all the &c.'s, that went to make up a good boiled dinner, I must confess I am not so much in favor of the big dinner pots, as of the fixings they used to contain.—Mrs. A. Kingman, *Medina, N. Y.*, 1861.

◆

Pie Melon Pie.—Pare and stew the melon, remembering to put in very little water, as the melon is very juicy. For each pie use one dessertspoonful of cream tartar, a piece of butter the size of an egg. Sweeten, and season with nutmeg to your taste. Bake with two crusts.—H. M. G., *Sumner, Iowa*, 1861.

◆

Cement for Fruit Jars.—Melt together one ounce of tallow and three ounces of rosin. Some think a small piece of beeswax an improvement.—Battie, *Columbus, N. Y.*, 1861.

◆

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

We believe that D. B. De Land & Co., of the Fairport Chemical Works, Fairport, Monroe Co., N. Y., are manufacturing as good, if not the best, Saleratus that has been ever produced in this country. A new discovery in refining, and not used in this country, except at this establishment, places them in a position to successfully compete, in point of quality, with any manufacturers of this article in the world. Their Saleratus is perfectly pure, of uniform quality, and perfectly healthful. It is now for sale by most of the grocers throughout the country.

Horticultural Advertisements.

EVERGREENS—Balsam, White Spruce, White Pine, Hemlock, Arbor Vitæ, Larch, $4 per 1,000.
EDWARD DIERSTON, Skaneateles, N. Y.

30,000 ISABELLA GRAPE ROOTS for sale—one year old, made from strong cuttings well rooted, all originated from one vine—none better. Price $30 per thousand.
H. PAYNE.
Lockport, N. Y., April 2, 1861.

NO. 1 PLUM STOCKS AT $8 Per 1,000.
No. 1 Pear Stocks at $10 per 1,000.
Apple Root Grafts at $3 per 1,000.
All strictly first class articles.
T. T. SOUTHWICK,
April 1, 1861.
Dansville, Liv. Co., N. Y.

APPLE AND PEAR TREES FOR SALE CHEAP.—The subscriber has Twenty Thousand Apple Trees and Five Thousand Dwarf Pear Trees, two years old, that he will sell at the following low prices, as they must be moved this spring, the land being wanted for other purposes.
Apple Trees, per thousand, $25, per ten thousand $200.
Dwarf Pear Trees, per thousand, $60, per five thousand $250.
Other Nursery Stock at very low prices.
J. L. CADY, Waterville, Oneida Co., N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED to SELL TREES.—We wish to employ a number of trusty men to sell trees for us the coming season. Address COLE & HAMILTON, Spencerport Nursery, Spencerport, Monroe Co., N. Y.

NATIVE EVERGREEN AND DECIDUOUS ORNAMENTAL FOREST TREES.—Furnished in any quantity and of all transportable sizes, at short notice, after trees can be taken up. Faithfully packed and forwarded according to directions. Printed Catalogues with prices sent to applicants.
Address WM. MANN, Bangor, Me.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS, SEEDS.—1,000,000 Wilson's Albany Plants, 70 cents ℔ 100, $3 ℔ 1,000, $20 ℔ 10,000. Twenty-five other choice varieties from $2 to $5 ℔ 1,000. Our Strawberries took the highest premium at our Horticultural Exhibition last season. *Darling's Extra Early Sweet Corn*, 75 cents peck, $2 bushel. *White Grape Currant Seed*, ounce 37 cts post-paid, pound $4. For the convenience of those who want less than a full packet of *Flower Seeds*, I will send 50 selected varieties for $1, and two red stamps to pre-pay, 10 packets prize Asters, Immortal Flowers, Ipomeas, Carnations, Pansies, &c., for $1. Every variety of Garden and Flower Seeds, fresh and reliable. Address
GEO. F. NEEDHAM,
March 28, 1861.
218 Washington St., Buffalo.

500,000 CUTTER'S SEEDLING STRAWBERRY PLANTS for sale, by the first introducer of this fruit to the public in 1859.
It has been tested twelve years, endures the winter without protection. Origin, N. H., from seed dropped by birds. It bore with me in 1860, on 600 cubic feet of ground 130 boxes of fruit, at the rate of 7,000 boxes per acre. was exhibited at the Massachusetts Horticultural Rooms five Saturdays in succession. The Fruit Committee recommend its trial. The quality is not surpassed, tall stem, hulls easy, carries well to market. Price, 50 cents per dozen, by mail, post-paid, or $1, 5 per 100, $10 per 1,000, packed and delivered to Express in Boston.
Numerous other popular Strawberry plants for sale. Hardy Grape Vines at low rates. The DRACUT AMBER, AUGUST PIONEER, JENNING'S SEEDLING, and WARREN SEEDLING, are not in other collections. Plants warranted true to name.
☞ Send for Illustrated Catalogues of Strawberries and Grapes by mail. Address J. W. MANNING,
586-2teow
Reading, Mass.

CHERRY SEEDLINGS.—Cherry Trees, two years old. Apricots two years old. Also, a general assortment of Nursery Stock, at reasonable rates. R. WHITE & CO.,
585-3t
Newark, Wayne Co., N. Y.

PLEASANT VALLEY WINE CO.'S LEADING varieties of Native and Foreign Grape Vines, for Vineyard Culture, at low prices.
☞ Send for full Descriptive Catalogue and Prospectus.
T. M. Younglove, Sec'y.
G. H. WHEELER, Pres't.
JOHN F. WEBER, Sup't.
Hammondsport, Steuben Co., N. Y., 1861.
586-4t

GREAT AUSTIN SHAKER STRAWBERRY.—The price of this mammoth variety will be reduced this spring to $2 per dozen or $10 per hundred. Delivered in rotation as ordered. The Great Austin was exhibited last year in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Rochester, and Albany, and acknowledged to be the most beautiful, and in average the largest and most productive of any Strawberry in cultivation. A liberal discount to those who purchase by the thousand. Orders addressed to either
585-4t
CHAUNCY MILLER, Shaker Trustee, Albany, N. Y., or
WM. S. CARPENTER, 468 Pearl Street, New York.

IMPORTED FRENCH STANDARD PEAR TREES.—To arrive per ship "Pellonia," from Havre, a splendid collection of Standard Pear Trees, containing none but the most approved varieties, selected expressly for us, from the largest Nurseries in France, consisting in part as follows—Bartlett, Seckel, Belle Lucrative, Beurre Bosc, Beurre Clairgeau, Beurre d'Anjou, Winter Nelis, &c.
An excellent opportunity is now offered to Farmers, Market Gardeners, and Amateur Cultivators, to obtain a choice assortment of Fruit Trees of the above well known varieties.
Priced list of the above, together with other Nursery Stock, Bulbs, &c., forwarded on application by
SPOONER & CO., Nurserymen and Florists,
583-4t
Jamaica Plain Nurseries, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

NATIVE EVERGREENS—6 to 15 inches high, packing free, $4 to $5 ℔ 1,000.
584-3t
D. L. SIMMONS & CO., Colborne, C. W.

PEAR SEEDS! PEAR SEEDS!!—A prime lot for sale at $1,50 per pound, by D. F. HOLMAN,
March 15, 1861. [584-4t]
Geneva, N. Y.

DOOLITTLE IMPROVED BLACK CAP RASPBERRY.—A few thousand choice plants for sale on reasonable terms. Address G. F. WILCOX, Fairport, N. Y.

FOR SALE.—50,000 Raspberry Plants, of the Doolittle variety, for sale cheap—warranted first quality. Address CHAS. LYON or CHAS. MOAL, Victor, Ontario Co., N. Y.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS—For sale Cheap—Early Scarlet, Hovey's Seedling, Wilson's Albany, Hooker's Seedling, and Triomphe de Gand. G. D. SOUTHWORTH, Penfield.

NURSERYMAN WANTED.—A man who is thoroughly competent to take the entire supervision of a Nursery. If he has a family, a house can be furnished him on the premises. Apply to or address
584tf
JAMES CHAPPELL, Rochester, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED to SELL FRUIT TREES.—We wish to employ a number of experienced and trustworthy men to sell trees, &c., from our Nurseries at liberal wages.
Wholesale Dealers furnished with Nursery Stock of all descriptions at the lowest *wholesale rates*.
HOOKER, FARLEY & CO.,
584tf
Rochester Wholesale Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, BULBS, &c.
Apple Trees! Standard and Dwarf, best kinds.
Pear Trees! do do., good assortment.
Cherry Trees! do do.
Peach Trees! One year old—fine trees.
Grape Vines! Native and Foreign,—a fine stock,—including a quantity of *extra strong plants, for immediate fruiting*.
Currants! Gooseberries! Raspberries!
Blackberries! Strawberries! Rhubarb, &c., &c.
Evergreens! Deciduous Trees! Shrubs, &c.
Norway Spruce! American Arbor Vitæ for Hedges and Screens.
Roses! Climbing, Hybrid, Perpetual and Moss,—a fine assortment.
Bulbous Roots! Lilies! Gladioli, &c.
A large assortment of the best.
Bedding Plants.—A fine assortment of the best varieties,—together with many other nursery articles for sale cheap.
Send for Catalogues. T. C. MAXWELL & BROS.,
March 12, 1861. [584-3t]
Geneva, N. Y.

GRAPE VINES.
Delaware, Diana, Rebecca, Concord, Hartford Prolific, Union Village, Northern Muscadine, Cuyahoga, Catawba, Isabella, Clinton, &c., at the very lowest rates.
FAHNESTOCK & BAKER.
Toledo, Ohio, March 7, 1861.
583-5t

ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS.
We have a large assortment of very fine Shade and Ornamental Trees for Lawns, &c., comprising among them
Weeping Poplars,
" Mountain Ash,
Willow, New American Weeping,
" Kilmarnock do.,
" Rosemary Leaved do.
Purple Beech,
Oak Leaved Mountain Ash,
Cut Leaved Birch,
Weeping Elms, viminalis,
Double Flow'g Horsechestnut,
Red do do.
FAHNESTOCK & BAKER.
Toledo, Ohio, March 7, 1861.
583-5t

TOLEDO NURSERIES.
We offer for sale this Spring our usual Nursery Stock, comprising
APPLE TREES, 6 to 7 feet, at $85 per 1,000.
PEARS, Standard, 1 and 2 years, $20 to $27 per 100.
Do. Dwarf, 2 " $12 to $22.
PLUM TREES, 3 years, $27 per 100.
Do do. Peach bottoms, $18 per 100.
CHERRIES, fine, 6 to 7 feet, $18 per 100.
PEACHES, 1 year from bud, $8 per 100.
With a large stock of Small Fruits, such as Currants, Raspberries, Gooseberries, Strawberries, Lawton Blackberries, &c., all at the lowest rates. FAHNESTOCK & BAKER.
Toledo, Ohio, March 7, 1861.
583-5t

MARBLEHEAD MAMMOTH CABBAGE.—The largest Cabbage in the world.—they have been grown weighing 62 lbs, and averaging over 30 lbs, *by the acre*! A package of over 1,000 seed, with directions for cultivation, 25 cents, five packets, $1,00. Circulars containing an engraving of this and the Mason and Stone Mason, with recommendations of men who have raised them by the acre, and had *every plant head hard*, tender and very sweet,—gratis. Stone Mason and Mason, with directions for cultivation, 25 cents each, per ounce. Hubbard Squash (of this I was the original introducer,) 15 cents for about 50 seed. *All seed warranted to reach each purchaser.*
583-6t
JAMES J. H. GREGORY, Marblehead, Mass.

EVERGREEN TREES.
Norway Spruce 1 ft, stocky and self furnished $40 ℔ 1000
Do 1½ feet " " " $60 "
Do. 2 feet " " " $70 "
Scotch and Austrian Pines, 10 to 12 inches, $30 ℔ 1,000.
Do " " 18 " $70 "
Also, Balsam Firs, White Cedar, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, Swedish Junipers, Corsican Pines, &c. All of the above three times transplanted.
Fine Trees of the above, proper size for retailing, and all sold to suit the times.
Nurserymen and venders dealt with liberally.
583-6t
FAHNESTOCK & BAKER.
March 7, 1861.
Toledo, Ohio.

APPLE TREES FOR SALE.—50,000 Apple Trees of the most popular varieties. The trees are four years old, straight, thrifty and in good condition for removal. Would be glad to sell the entire lot to one or two persons, on such terms as would be satisfactory to the parties. The trees are very near to Frost's nursery in Rochester, and can be seen by calling on Thos. Smith, Francis St., near the premises. For further particulars address C. H. ROGERS, Palmyra, N. Y.
Rochester, Feb. 14, 1861.
581tf

TREE SEEDS! TREE SEEDS!
SCHROEDER & CO.,
NO. 10 STATE STREET, ROCHESTER, N. Y.,
Offer among many other varieties of Tree Seeds, the following leading sorts, at the prices named:

Abies Excelsa, [Norway Spruce,]	per ℔	$0,80
Pinus Austriacus, [Austrian Pine,]	"	1,75
" Silvestris, [Scotch Pine,]	"	1,20
" Strobus, [White,]	"	2,50
" Cembra, [Cembrian,]	"	1,00
" Pinea, [Italian Stone Pine,]	"	2,00
" Pumilia, [Dwarf,]	"	2,00
" Lancia, [Corsican,]	"	6,00
" Pinaster, [Maritima,]	"	1,00
Picea Pectinata, [European Silver Fir,]	"	1,50
Larix Europæus, [European Larch,]	"	3,00
Juniperus Communis, [English,]	"	0,70
" Virginiana, [Red Cedar,]	"	1,00
Thuya Occidentalis, [American,]	"	1,50
" Orientalis, [Chinese,]	"	3,00
Fraxinus Excelsior, [European Black Ash,]	"	1,00
Acer Platanoides, [Norway,]	"	1,00
" Rubrum, [Scarlet,]	"	3,00

PEAR SEEDS, $2,00 ℔ lb, in quantities of 25 lbs, and over, at wholesale prices.
Apple Seeds, Cherry, Plum, and Peach Pits.
Angers and Fontenay Quinces, very strong.
Pear, Plum, Dwarf Apple, Dwarf Cherry, Manetti Rose, Stocks, &c., &c.
578-eow-it

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

A DOZEN YEARS.

A dozen years he dwelt with us
Before he went away,
And then he plumed his angel wings
For realms of endless day.
Those down floating, golden years,
Passed like a blissful dream,
Like short, sweet years of Paradise
To us they'll always seem.

A dozen years—I mind me now,
As on my breast he lay,
How, with a smile, he softly said,
"I'm twelve years old to-day
Just twelve years old to-day, mother;
'Tis very young to die,
But Jesus knows the best mother,
He wants me in the sky.

"The trees are always green in heaven,
The flow'rs are always fair,
We can't begin to think, mother,
How sweet it is up there.
My birthday gifts you need not buy,
Sweet mother, now, you know,
For mine will be a crown and harp,
And robes as white as snow.

"Then kiss me my good-by, mother,
'Tis but a moment more
For I'm sure I hear the music
From off that golden shore."
I bent, with tears, to kiss his brow,
A holy light was there,
And, like a halo, fell the sheen
Upon his chestnut hair.

'Twas heavenly light, for even then
An angel band drew near,
"Good-by, sweet mother, I am gone,"
Fell softly on mine ear.
The angels brought a gilded bark
With azure-silken sails,
They floated o'er the stream of death,
Borne on by perfumed gales.

That shallop came from heav'n, I know,
Heav'n's light shone round its bow,
And seraphs wove those silken sails,
And carved that golden prow.
From heav'n it came, to heav'n it went,
I know, but did not see;
For Faith, in tones of wondrous love,
Soft whispered it to me.

So now I know my boy is blest,
An angel bright is he,
And though I soon may go to him,
He'll not return to me.
A dozen years—they're but a span
Of what he has to live,
And all that life's a scene of joy,—
Such joy as God can give.

A dozen years! oh, must I still
A dozen longer wait,
Ere, at my call, my angel boy
Will ope the pearly gate?
A dozen, yes, if 'tis His will,
I'll wait a longer time;
And even say, with sweet content,
My Father's time is mine.

Fayetteville, N. Y., 1861. A. M. P.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WOMAN'S DUTIES.

My subject you may call a trite one, and such I fancy it will be unto the end of time, if the newspapers of our land continue, as persistently as ever, to herald forth the duties, obligations, and dependency of woman. I must say I have become perfectly disgusted with this constant prating. One might as well imagine that woman was utterly ignorant of her peculiar duties and adaptations, and that the rest of the race, in commiseration thereof, had set themselves up as her instructors. Now, with all due deference to the wondrous knowledge possessed by the "lords of creation," it certainly seems to me that females are usually quite as intelligent as the other sex, and I imagine they know about as well how to "act well their part in life."

We are told again and again, that home happiness depends mostly upon the wife, mother, sister, and daughter. Don't we know this? Don't we know that after a day has been spent to the discharge of the many wearisome household duties, and the husband and father, sons and brothers, return from their labor, or, as is frequently the case, from lounging in some public place talking politics,—listening to or retailing scandle,—don't we know that, under such circumstances, some tact is necessary to meet dissatisfaction and discord with content and pleasantness?—to have things so righted round, and straightened out, that home shall present a cheerful aspect?

Besides this, there is a wonderful cry among some about the *dependence* of woman upon men. It sounds in our ears from the Atlantic to the Pacific,—by priest and people. Why, they say, of course, they are *particularly* dependant upon us,—of course, the *Bible* says so. I have known men that could quote only one passage of scripture correctly, and that you will find in Collossians, iiic, 18v. Moreover, common sense teaches it. If this is common sense, I am glad I never was endowed with it.

Now, we know that we are, in some sense, dependant creatures,—that one person must rely, somewhat, upon another; but the wife is no more dependant on her husband, than he upon his wife. Supposing his earnings do provide the provisions and clothing, what's it all going to amount to if his wife does not know how to use these things to the best advantage? How is a man to gain wealth, if his wife or daughters spend faster than he can earn. Many a man has acquired wealth who never would but for the economy and thrift of his industrious wife, and many are struggling now to provide the mere necessities of life, who might have been prospering, had they, in the management of their business, heeded the advice of the wife. But, dear me, no,—they are not going to have a woman interfering in their affairs; and thus they often come to be *dependant* upon the exertions of their "better half," for the support of themselves and families.

They talk to us, too, of our great influence upon society,—how essential it is that we should be models of purity and goodness, so that all who come within this magical influence shall be metamorphosed thereby. Now, how potent soever this may be in some cases, when I see the sons of some of the best of mothers following so closely in the footsteps of unworthy fathers, I am convinced it is necessary somebody should be good besides the mother.

When clouds of darkness and sorrow surround the pathway, who endures best the blasts of adversity,—is it man? Nay. In the severe trials of life, the stern man is often soonest shaken, and finds himself dependant upon weak woman for aid and sympathy,—the closest observers of human nature have testified to the truth of this.

Some talk much of the great necessity of women being Christians. Is it because the soul of man is less precious,—because he is holier by nature, or because his responsibility to the Creator is less?—that he considers it so much more obligatory upon females to yield their wills to the Savior? Such is not the case. They know that the influence of the Gospel is to make one meek, patient, long-suffering, under all circumstances, and such a spirit as this they like to deal with. One that will not conflict with their pet whims and mighty wills. In most instances, when you really probe to the bottom of the thing, you will find it is all selfishness which prompts this cry about the great adaptation of religion to the heart and life of woman. That there are *noble* exceptions I grant, but among the *masses* they are few.

You men who are so supremely particular about your food, your clothes, and, in fact, everything,—who want your wives and children always to be in apple-pie order, and think they can *keep* so, no matter what engaged in, how do you suppose you would manage to gratify your exquisite taste, without the aid of some one or more of those dependant beings called women? Don't you believe there would be some muddy coffee,—some burnt cakes,—some ragged garments, and some tumbled linen? It really distresses me to think of it. But, after all, what's the use of talking or writing? To be sure it frees my mind a little, but that is not much consolation, when the conviction is constantly forcing itself upon me that,

> "A man convinced against his will,
> Is of the same opinion still."

Gainesville, N. Y., 1861. Maude Elliott.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PRETTY FACES.

I, for one, don't like pretty faces. I mean such as women sigh after, and men write sonnets to. I never saw one in my life but looked as though if you put your finger upon it, it would go clear through. I do like to see faces that glow with the light of intellect,—that change with every change of feeling. It matters not how irregular the features may be, the mind is there, and the face cannot fail to be interesting; but these chiselled faces, with no more expression than there is to a bowl of milk and water, I cannot tolerate. Talk about "auburn hair," "eyes of cerulean blue," "rosy cheeks," "pearly teeth," and "ruby lips,"—what do they all amount to? Just this, you have a silly little thing, no more calculated to get along in this every-day world than a *white mouse*. While her beauty lasts, it is well enough, but it always fades, and there is no character more despicable than a woman who has nothing but beauty to recommend her, when that beauty is gone. As for *pretty men!* Shades of Antiquity, how would it sound to speak of any of the great men of former times as pretty. The very idea of man has something manly in it; and when I see those creatures ladies call "pretty men," I always want to lift them up gently, and set them aside, lest some elfin breeze waft them away. Oh! anything but pretty folks, according to my way of thinking. Why, I had rather see any one so homely as to make their faces *ache*, if they know something, than these silly, wishy-washy creatures, though their faces may be as delicate as the dream of a fairy. Pretty folks are never smart; but may be you like people that don't know much. I beg leave to differ. Nina.

March, 1861.

IN LOVE WITH CALICO.

As the "last best gift" are discussing the dress question in the Rural, we think the remarks of one of the "sterner sex,"—a young man to Oswego Co., who has been inspired by calico,—are worthy of more than a passing notice. Read them, and ponder:

"Calico dresses are a grand institution. Delaines, silks, and even satins are good enough in their place —in the parlor or band-box, and all such; but after all the old 'stand by,' the substantial, is the shilling calico. Care must be taken not to soil the silk, nothing must come to contact with the nice dress that will rumple and stain it; but the calico, that's made for work, and, as the 'highfalutins' say, 'nobly does it fulfill its mission.' Silk rarely finds its way into the realities of life; that is into the kitchen at home, or into the hut of the suffering abroad.

But calico. O! what rich meals we get by it; how it cheers the suffering as with its bright colors and cheerful presence it stands with soft hand ministering to our distresses.

Calico seems to be always more willing and ready to give to want than silk. It is a curious fact of our nature, that the nicer our dress the harder our heart is, as if when dressed in silk we changed our natures and rose above base worldly things. What! our silk dress be seen near enough to that poor woman to give her assistance, or drabbling into a dirty hut? No, never! Calico might do it; silk, it's just impossible.

But when, in addition to all, Calico comes to, rosy with the exercise of kitchen duties which it knows how to do so well, and loves to do so dearly, and sits down at the piano or melodeon, and makes the liquid melody flow sweetly forth; aye, even blending its own sweet voice with the music of the instrument, then we appreciate Calico."

AN ELEGANT WOMAN.

There is a person whose harmonious voice gives to her conversation a charm found equally in her manners. She knows how to speak and how to keep silence, how delicately to engage herself with you, and use only proper subjects of conversation. Her words are happily chosen; her language is pure, her raillery caresses, and her criticism does not wound. Far from contradicting with the ignorant assurance of a fool, she seems to seek in your company, good sense or truth. She indulges in dissertation as little as she does in disputes; stops when she pleases. Of so equable temper, her air is affable and gay. Her politeness has nothing forced in it, her welcome is never servile; she reduces respect to nothing more than a delicate shade; she never tires you, and leaves you satisfied with her and yourself. Attracted to her sphere by an inexplicable power, you find her wit and grace impressed upon the things with which she surrounds herself; everything there pleases the sight, and while there you seem to breathe the fresh air of the country. In intimacy this person seduces you by a tone of fresh simplicity. She is frank, without offending any one's self-love.

She accepts men as God has made them, pardoning their faults and ridiculous qualities; comprehending all ages, and vexing herself about nothing, since she has tact enough to foresee everything. She obliges rather than consoles, she is tender and gay; therefore you will love her irresistibly. You will take her for a type, and vow to worship her.

Choice Miscellany.

MOURNFUL VOICES.

There are voices, mournful voices, that are speaking to me now·
Years have filled a cup of sorrow, sadness sits upon my brow.
Death the stern and death the mighty stretches out his chilling wand,
And my sister, little sister, sleeps to wake in Spirit-land.
Blue-eyed child of sunny summer, winter winds are very cold
For the fragile, heavenly flowers, planted in this earthly mold;
So the angels bore thee upward to the garden of our God,
Raising up the fallen flower when the storm had chilled the sod.

Little children make death beautiful, so sweetly still they lie:
But oh! they forget to waken when they once have learned to die!
Yet I murmured o'er my sister, lying peacefully and mild,
Oh! that I could turn me back again and die, like her, a child!
For with childhood pleading for me, sealed by death upon my brow,
'Twere a blessing thus like her to lie: but oh! what were it now!

Blessed fields where fancy wanders! often in the silent night
Have I searched along your pathways for a beautiful, a bright
Girlish form that clung to me once like a little clambering vine;
And I long to sleep and wake with thee in heaven, sister mine.
And when clouds roll up the heavens from the depths afar below,
Forming palaces of splendor where the sunset lances glow,
Or the stars shine on the battlements and crowd around the dome;
And beneath, billows of moon-light surging, as if shoreward, came;
Oft I think that thou art gliding, with a step I hear no more,
By the pillars, by the arches, through the blue, star-hinged door,
Stretching out a hand of welcome from the spirit-haunted shore.

Knickerbocker Magazine.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

BEAUTIFUL SENTENCES.

We find them scattered here and there in sketches, essays, scraps of poetry,—in narratives, and descriptive writings,—tucked in the corners of newspapers. Often, in the midst of unexpected surroundings, they flash upon us suddenly, and surprise with their beauty and fitness. People oftener give utterance to gems of thought unconsciously, than when they take great pains to hunt for them. An elegant style is much admired, and writers on Rhetoric give many directions about the structure of sentences; they must be clear, appropriate, and harmonious. But can any one write beautiful sentences by the mere study of expression? We may borrow a thought and dress it in words that fall pleasantly on the ear, but we can never thus originate those sentences that arrest attention and awaken deep feeling in the soul. When the *heart* is intensely interested, the brain catches the fire of invention,—the sea of thought, sluggish in repose, moves with majesty and effect, when aroused by the power of emotion.

The words of the real orator are often dull and common-place, until he becomes inspired with his theme. When his heart is aroused, the magic influence reaches every faculty of his mind, and words that have a meaning fall upon the ear. Every sentence leads directly to the point he wishes to reach. He concentrates upon it all the light at his command. While thus his very soul is aroused, his words carry conviction with them—striking images and beautiful comparisons crowd upon his imagination; and for the time the minds of his listeners are under perfect control. Thought follows thought, clothed in beautiful and appropriate language. Men who never make the least effort at elegance or ornament,—who always aim to reach conclusions by the shortest path, however rugged, are sometimes truly eloquent by the inspiration of circumstances. Our last Inaugural by "Honest Abe," is a specimen of condensed thought, clothed in the plainest terms. He seems to have avoided expressions calculated to excite the enthusiasm of the people. Yet how beautiful and fitting, both in thought and language, is his closing sentence:

"The mystic chords of memory stretch high from every battle field and patriot grave, to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land,—and will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as they surely will be, the better angels of our nature."

Sentiment and expression are aptly blended in the following sentence:

"Mourn not for the young; the ripple that dies to its first murmurings breaks with a song of joy,—but the billow, weary with long wanderings, falls heavily moaning on the sea."

Here is a gem from a poem, "Lizzie's Grave:"

> "While in the world's tempestuous sea,
> With the rough billows' foam,
> But the first wave that launched thy bark,
> Was that which washed it home."

How many pearls of thought are scattered around the graves of lost friends; and how precious are these to those household bands where the "vacant chair" and the missing voice and form speak of the sleeping, silent one in the lonely church-yard. A sentiment is not fully appreciated unless it reach the feelings and sympathies of our nature. The eloquent words of the patriot, spoken in the hour of a country's danger, awaken the deepest emotions in those who love their land the most. Requiems for the loved and lost, touch the hearts of the bereaved,—hopeful, inspiring words are treasured by the young and ambitions. To the restless wanderers on life's troubled shore, how sweet are words that speak of peace, of home, and heaven. It is to such that the Savior spoke in that beautiful invitation,—"Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." M. O.

Beloit, Wis., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE SEA—ITS BENEFITS AND LESSONS.

Among all the beautiful and varied shapes which nature assumes, there is, probably, not one whose benefits and lessons are so frequently overlooked as are those of the sea. In viewing none other of nature's almost countless forms are we so prone to consider first, their mighty power for evil, and afterwards, as a secondary consideration, the trifling amount of good which may be attributed to them. In the choice of our reading we are in no case so ready to turn from a careful explanation of the theories and laws of nature to an elaborate description of her impressive majesty, as when the sea is represented in all the sullen grandeur of the rising storm, since, as Southey has well said,

> "'Tis pleasant by the cheerful hearth, to hear
> Of tempests, and the dangers of the deep,
> And pause at times, and feel that we are safe."

To the careless and indifferent man, who views all things from a commercial stand point, and who makes "Profit and Loss" the standard of nature's utility, the sea seems but a vast and barren waste, where no railroad stock operations can be located, and where "corner lots" are of no avail whatever. Or, perhaps, he more favorably considers it as a grand highway between nations, which brings in supplies after the market rates have fallen, or failing to bring them in at all, ruins all his dividend on the carefully chosen Insurance Company Stocks.

But to the thoughtful observer, to the person who believes that nature was made for man, and that by it he should profit, a moment's consideration will readily suggest the many, aye the almost innumerable, benefits and lessons which are to be derived from the sea. Its benefits are crowded before our eyes at nearly every sea-port. There we meet with the productions of almost every nation of the globe, all sent in payment for our manufactures and other articles of export, and thus largely enhancing both the amount and the profit of our commerce. The whale fisheries, which are, in a commercial point of view, next in importance among its benefits, afford constant employment to thousands of men, and furnish us with several very important articles of commerce. The numerous other fisheries also afford an inexhaustible supply of food for man.

The highest benefit, however, which accrues to us from the sea, is one which was devised by the Creator alone, and compared with which all the skill and sagacity of men in their beneficial endeavors appear but trivial indeed. From the sea are generated all those vapors which, when re-condensed, form the refreshing showers, thereby reviving vegetation, fertilizing the earth, purifying the air, and supplying a most necessary element in all animal and vegetable life. The currents of the sea also impart a refreshing breeze to the tropical regions, without which animal life there would be almost impossible, and give a moderated atmosphere to the region of the temperate zones.

But how great, how wonderful, and how impressive are the lessons which we may learn from the sea! How many delightful and sublime reflections are awakened in a thoughtful mind by the numerous phases which the sea under different circumstances assumes! It is natural for us, when sitting by the sea-side we view the clear and placid surface of the water as glistening with the sunlight it breaks into ripples on the beach, to ponder upon the beautiful concord of the Universe. Then do we remember the many and complex laws in accordance with which an almighty power produces this general harmony of nature, and meditate upon the great kindness of that Being by whom all these beautiful and suggestive forms are presented to us. As its vast expanse lies spread out before us, terminated only by the horizon, rolling gently in its quiet grandeur, and reflecting every point, headland, or sail, what an emblem is it of the infinite, tranquil peace and love, and ever-watchful perception of the Omnipotent Ruler of all things.

But suppose the scene to be changed. The sea, as far as the eye can reach, appears to be one living, moving mass, as it is heaved to and fro in the fury of the storm. Driven by the resistless force of the wind, wave after wave, in quick and restless succession, rushes on. For a moment the towering crest of each is seen as it dauntlessly approaches, and then, breaking with deafening roar upon the rock-bound coast, it sends up countless grand and beautiful forms of foam and spray. Then we unconsciously revert to the supreme majesty and power of Him who "ruleth all things." Then may we realize, to some degree, the infinite wisdom of Him who, in creating a very useful part of the globe, has at the same time made such a suggestive symbol of His almighty power.

Rochester, N. Y., 1861. W. M. J.

The "Eldest Child."—The oldest child of a family holds a position, as it regards influence and importance, scarcely second to that of the parents themselves,—often called upon, in the temporary absence of the father and mother, to direct home affairs,—always looked up to as an oracle in matters of taste and opinion, by the junior members, who draw inferences and shape conclusions even without the help of spoken words, even from so slight tokens as a raised eyebrow, or shrugged shoulder, or impatient gesture. Do older brothers and sisters think enough of this? In after life they may, alas! but too sorrowfully, when they find themselves repeated in myriad forms of thought and expression, by those who then hung unnoticed upon their lips. Perhaps this brief hint may reach an eye hitherto careless of these "little things," which, like drops of water, go to swell such a mighty flood. "*Little*" things! We had almost said *nothing* is "little" in this world, least of all, those which we short-sighted mortals oftenest call such.

Composition Commended.—One of the best methods to acquire the knowledge of a subject is to attempt to write about it. Ideas have a sort of cohesive and magnetic attraction for each other, and seem to flow together when the pen is taken to express them. Many a time have we commenced to pen a sentence, and there came to us matter for a paragraph, and even for an essay. Then, again, when a person attempts to write, it becomes necessary to acquire ideas upon the subject under consideration. He will do this in the most expeditious, practical manner, without loading the memory with those ennui of particulars and demonstrations in which pedantry is so fond of dealing. Hence, the pen teaches better than the pedagogue, and the closet is vastly superior to the school-room in the work of developing intellect and cultivating the scholar.—*Selected.*

Parental Authority.—When the child is prepared to submit to authority—to acknowledge the superiority of its parent—to acknowledge his obligation to render obedience to his will—the parent then has the vantage-ground; he can then cultivate the heart, the affections of that child, and every thing he does will then be received as an act of kindness and condescension; while, on the other hand, the child who has never learned to submit, takes whatever his parents do for him as his right—his due; and when the parent withholds any thing from him, he considers it a wrong, and it is a wrong as he has a right to view the subject, if the parent has indulged it up from infancy as the rule, instead of teaching him to govern himself, and to yield to authority.—*Orlando Hastings.*

Life's Inequalities.—The inequalities of life are real things,—they can neither be explained away, nor done away,—"*you may dig them out, but they will come again.*" A leveler, therefore, has long been set down as a ridiculous and chimerical being who, if he could finish his work to-day, would have to begin it again to-morrow. The things that constitute these real inequalities are *four*—strength, talent, riches, and rank. The two former would constitute inequalities in the rudest state of nature; the two latter more properly belong to a state of society more or less civilized and refined.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

NEARER THEE.

BY E. A. FORD

Nearer to Thee, then welcome all the storms
That drive me, Father to thy sheltering arms,—
Welcome rough winds, if o'er life's tossing sea
They waft me to a haven nearer Thee.

Thrice welcome deepest darkness, if it blot
All false and glaring lights forever out,—
That, in its brightness, so my path may gleam
The world's true light,—the Star of Bethlehem.

Welcome the disappointments and the tears
That have so sadly marked the flight of years;
Yes, welcome *all things*, whatsoe'er they be,
If they but hasten my approach to Thee.

Time, oh, how vapid seem the pleasures of its flight
Viewed in Eternity's clear searching light;
My life is but a moment's space to flee
To that unfailing refuge nearer Thee.

Oh, that each day, in its unceasing round,
May find me on life's passage "homeward bound,"
The beacon strong and bright upon the lea,
Guiding me safely heavenward,—nearer Thee.

Geneva, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PROMISES.

Not the promises that our friends make, and often forget, or do not fulfill, but the promises which the Lord has made and given to man, in his revealed word. Promises which convey hope and consolation to all, in every situation of life; and which fail not, for He who made them is faithful to perform all that he has said he would. We have the assurance that the Lord is not slack concerning his promises, but ready to confer all the blessings which they are designed to give to mankind.

When we recall their number and *greatness*, addressed as they are to all classes among men, conveying peace and happiness to every one, without distinction; we can but raise our hearts in gratitude to our Creator for making such great and glorious promises to a lost and sin-loving race. Let us recall a few of the many He has made. To the Christian he has said, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." Every person who has sought the divine favor and has, with all his mind and strength, desired to have his sins washed away by the atoning blood of Christ, has the promise of being a son of the most High. We have every encouragement to struggle against the great adversary of all good, knowing we shall be amply blest in this life, and reap a glorious reward in that day when the Lord shall permit us to realize fully, in the "celestial city," that we are a son of God, an heir to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away.

If we are sometimes unfaithful to our Father in Heaven, the kind admonition and promise, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life," comes to us with irresistible force, and we arouse to adorn the profession we have made by giving heed to all the requirements of the gospel. What if trials and temptations do come, are we to be overcome by the enemy? No. We are to be faithful to Him who has always been so to us, by fleeing from the very appearance of evil; and then we shall be able to appreciate the counsels of the great "I Am."

And when we approach the dark and deep River of Death, although we may shrink at the thought of passing over its turbid waters alone, without the aid of friends, yet we confide in the Savior, for he appears and says, "Fear not, for *I am* with thee." "I am the resurrection and the life." And we feel assured that beyond the grave we are to live again and enjoy the society of the redeemed forever, in ascribing praise to Him who sitteth upon the throne. Who then would not trust in the Lord for strength and guidance to overcome all sin, and be made a partaker of his salvation?

Those who are without hope in these sacred promises are invited to come and partake of the water of life freely, and have their hearts fitted to receive the engrafted word which will enable them to realize faith in the pledges which Jesus has made. Kind reader, the most precious promises have been made to you for all, without distinction of character, are invited to come to Christ, with the assurance that "Ye shall find rest to your souls." And who does not need rest? Who does not long to be happy here, and feel conscious that there is a rest for the faithful? Trust in the arm of Jehovah then, and the promises which He has made will be fulfilled in giving you a crown of eternal life, and a seat with the angel choir, to sing the song of redeeming love forever.

Chili Centre, N. Y., 1861. J. L. K.

"TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVEN."

I have seen Laura Bridgman, whom God sent into this world without sight, hearing, or the power of speech. She could see nothing, hear nothing, ask nothing. To her, the very thunder has ever been silence, and the sun blackness. The tips of her fingers and the palms of her hands have been her eyes and tongue. Yet that poor sickly girl knows much of the earth, and language, and numbers; of human relationships and passions; of what is, has been, shall be, should be; of sin, and death, and hell; of God, and Christ, and heaven. And all this has gone through the poor child's slender fingers, darkly feeling the fingers of another; and thus she tells her hopes, and fears, and sorrows. And if she, groping so blindly for the Savior, finds Him and rests her weak hands on His lowly head—that blessed head which bows lowly enough even for this—O, how will she rise up in judgment and condemn with utter overwhelming, you, O, sinners! upon whose soul every sense is pouring the knowledge of God, while your eyes read his holy Word, and your ears hear, a thousand times over, these tidings of great joy—even the glorious Gospel of the blessed God!—*Dr. Hoge.*

Faith.—The soldiers that, like Cromwell's, march with Bibles to their boots, load the cannon by the grace of God, and fire it with a psalm, cannot easily be beaten. Give us plenty of the substance of things hoped for, and an evidence of things not seen. Let one feel that he stands on truth, that the laws of the universe and the attributes of the Almighty are pledged to his support, and you might as well try to chase a rock as him. Faith justified Abel and translated Enoch; floated the ark and founded the church; crossed the Red Sea, and shook down the walls of Jericho. In all ages it has out of weakness become strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens, and led out willing martyrs for the mountains or the flames.

Love is our best gift to our fellow beings, and that which makes any gift valuable in the sight of heaven.

The Traveler.

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Five.

A Chinese Wedding—Chinamen described—U. S. Marine Hospital—The future of San Francisco—California wheat Harvest—Amount of wheat, wool, and wine produced in 1860—Number of fruit trees—Size of fruit—Figs and fig leaf aprons.

San Francisco, Dec. 15, 1860.

Robert Burns, sitting down on one occasion to write a poem, said

"Which way the subject theme may gang,
Let time or chance determine;
Perhaps it may turn out a sang,
Or, probably, a sermon!"

We have no fears that our pen will either attempt a song or a sermon, but it is always more inclined to take country rambles, and sketch from nature's great architect, than to tarry in and describe city scenes and manners. But our quill must give over soaring and sailing, and soberly tell your readers about a *Chinese Wedding in High Life.* The firm of Lun Wo & Co., of San Francisco, have a spruce young clerk from the environs of Pekin, named Cum Chum. He has been (it is said) for some time enamored of a moon-eyed beauty, named Ah Too. Last evening his addresses were consummated by his winning "the hand, and the heart in it," of Miss Too. Cum Chum is an F. F. P., (First Family of Pekin,) and is here not only to act as book-keeper, but to study the character of the outside barbarians in San Francisco, as it is whispered, with the intention of writing a book. Miss Ah Too has seen eighteen summers, and came to this country but a short time since. The arrangements having been completed at the house of Ah Wau, in Sacramento street, the hymenial train of carriages started from the door of Lun Wo, and proceeded with the bridegroom and his friends, to that of the bride, where the ceremony was performed by the said parties affixing their signatures to a paper in Chinese characters; after which they returned to the house of Ah Wau, where their arrival was heralded by the firing of bunches of fire-crackers and the mellifluous sounds of bugags, tum-tums, and one stringed fiddles. The principal room in the upper story was decorated with flowers, and *kin kin jos* was burnt in all directions, to propitiate the several deities who rule the roost hymeneal. A table groaned under its heavy load of soups and other good dishes, and a plentiful supply of chop-sticks was provided for the guests to feed themselves with. As the happy party arrived, the bu-gags struck up a dulcet melody, the tum-tums were smitten, and ravishing strains floated out upon the calm evening air, the wheng-chow discoursed celestial symphonies,

"And all went merry as a marriage bell."

Then they who had been bidden to the feast, fell to, and such a clattering of chop-sticks and dodging about of shaven heads, has seldom been witnessed. Cum Chum benignly and complacently received the showers of congratulations of his friends, and the fair Ah Too looked never so charmingly. At a late hour the party separated, happy in the thought that

"Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts, that beat as one,"

had started along the path of wedlock, and were thenceforth to travel over the rough and rocky road together.

We forgot the figures indicating the Chinese population of California, but the number of Johns and their companions is counted by hundreds of thousands! Occasionally one is seen dressed in American fashion, but nearly all sport their oriental costume, consisting of broad-rimed, cone-shaped hats; wooden, sharp-toed shoes; trowsers of blue jean, with legs as large as meal bags; and over their shoulders and chest a blue cassimere tunic, or frock, coming down nearly to the knee, which in winter is lined with peltry. With sallow, beardless faces, shaved heads, and a dangling pig-tail hanging down the back, they certainly make anything but a *lovely* appearance.

As we design to speak sparingly of public buildings, it may be apropos to say that almost the first building that attracts the eye of one just stepping off the steamer, to gaze for the first time upon the city of San Francisco, is (near by) the United States Marine Hospital. It is located on Rincon Point, on an elevation affording a grand view of the city and bay of San Francisco, the contra costa valleys and hills, and the coast range of mountains. The city authorities conveyed to the United States six vara lots, each 137½ feet square, as a site for the institution, and it was built by United States authority, at a cost of $220,000, appropriated from a fund created by a tax on all American sailors of twenty-five cents per month, which ship-masters are required to deduct from their wages, and pay at the custom house. In return for this tax, every sailor belonging to an American vessel is entitled, in case of sickness, to a certificate from the collector of the port, for admission into the Hospital, which has been built and is furnished and supported by *his* money, so that he enters not as a charity patient, but as one of the owners of the institution. The United States Marine Hospital in San Francisco will accommodate comfortably about 500 patients, and is kept in the most perfect order; the floors, furniture, and every thing, almost as neat and clean as a gentleman's private residence! There is no regular chaplain in this Hospital, but the Rev. Wm. Taylor (Methodist) introduced regular services there on Sabbath, soon after it was built, which he kept up during most of his stay in California; and which is still kept up by local preachers, exhorters, and occasional visits from regular pastors.

Much that is interesting in San Francisco might afford themes for the pen of the tourist. There is nothing in the History of mankind, of a *voluntary mustering of the people to one point of the earth's surface,* like the settling of this coast and the growth of this city. Though burned to the ground for the sixth time, it was not destroyed; and to-day, with a population of over 70,000, its boundaries rapidly extending, its trade and manufactures increasing, the picture of its future that rises before us, is one of grandeur and glory. Telegraphs will put her in hourly communication with all the chief cities of the continent, and its wires will belt the globe! Railroads will be completed that shall unite her with New England, and the shrill whistle of the steam engine on the summit of the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountain passes will decide in favor of her brilliant destiny, and point to her growing greatness. Then, with a population of 200,000, San Francisco and New York and London will be the three prominent points in the commerce of the world!

As an agricultural State, California will ever hold an enviable rank. With four or five months of uninterrupted harvest moons, during which time not a drop of dew or rain descends to interrupt the gathering of her vast wheat fields, she possesses tremendous advantages over the States east of the great dividing range of mountains. The importance of fair weather in harvest is indicated in a remark once made by Hon. Daniel Webster—"that a few days of foul weather near the beginning of wheat harvest in Great Britain, directly affects the interests and markets of the whole civilized world." This remark of the great statesman is founded on the conceded fact that hitherto Mark Lane has been the barometer of prices for breadstuffs throughout Europe and America. As the price of grain rules there, so it rates in Hamburgh, Vienna, Paris, and New York. California harvested the past summer 250,000 acres of wheat, averaging 30 bushels to the acre, turning out 7,500,000 bushels. I have seen large grain fields cut down and left for months together in the field unthreshed. I have seen thousands of bushels sacked and piled up, and left to be stored for many weeks or months, within a well inclosed field, with no other protection than the shining vault of heaven; and I have seen farmers who have paid $1,800 for sacks alone, sufficient to contain the present year's crop, and the number would load a four horse team. Wheat sacks are extensively manufactured in this city by means of heavy sewing machines. They hold about two bushels, and cost from 12 to 13 cents each.

California has raised the present season a clip of wool estimated in value at $3,040,200. She is also well adapted, in soil and climate, to the culture and growth of the vine. In 1858 the value of her grape crop was estimated at $1,000,000. When the present stock of vines is well matured, it is estimated that their annual yield will be worth quite $10,000,000. There are vineyards in the State sixty or seventy years old, still yielding as largely as ever. Intelligent Spaniards, Frenchmen, Germans, and Italians, unite in saying that it is as well adapted to the cultivation of the vine as any country in the interior of Europe, or on the Mediterranean. Here grow the strawberry, the pomegranate, the olive, and the fig, side by side with the apple, the pear, and the peach; the grape of Malaga and Hamburgh, the almond, the lemon, and the orange, with the black walnut and the shellbark; the natives of the far North and the tropical sunny South grow side by side and flourish well! France has about 4,000,000 acres in vineyards, yielding in favorable seasons an estimated income of $140,000,000, with an increasing demand. The United States has not over 4,000 acres in vineyards, with an endless market for table wines.

California is soon to be famous for its variety and amount of fruit. In addition to the vine, it is also estimated that there are now ready to bear in California, 2,000,000 apple trees, over 3,500,000 peach trees, and 500,000 pear trees. Fruit attains to a large size. There was exhibited at the State Fair, by a gentleman, 26 peaches, the aggregate weight of which was 26 lbs! The fig is delicious when taken ripe and fresh from the tree. Their color is brown, nearly approaching a black. The tree is of thrifty growth, and with its dense foliage gives a grateful shade under a fiery sky. The leaves are large and deeply scolloped. How Adam and his lady managed to manufacture aprons from such fabric is a question. They must have been experts. That's certain. That Adam was a genius—that his wife was tractable and easy to learn, admits of no dispute; but how, without shears or bodkin, they could get up a good apron from ill-shaped, star-scolloped fig leaves, is a puzzle. Surely no modern tailor or tailoress could quite do it.

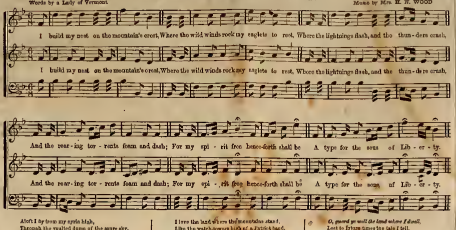
S. S. R.

* * *

[Composed Expressly for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

SONG OF THE AMERICAN EAGLE.

Words by a Lady of Vermont. Music by Mrs. H. N. WOOD


I build my nest on the mountain's crest, Where the wild winds rock my eaglets to rest, Where the lightnings flash, and the thun-ders crash,
I build my nest on the mountain's crest, Where the wild winds rock my eaglets to rest, Where the lightnings flash, and the thun-ders crash,
And the roar-ing tor-rents foam and dash; For my spi-rit free hence-forth shall be A type for the sons of Lib-er-ty.
And the roar-ing tor-rents foam and dash; For my spi-rit free hence-forth shall be A type for the sons of Lib-er-ty.

Aloft I fly from my eyrie high,
Through the vaulted dome of the azure sky,
On a sunbeam bright take my airy flight,
And float in a flood of liquid light;
For I love to play in the noon-tide ray,
And bask in a blaze from the throne of day.

Away I spring with a tireless wing,
On a feathery cloud I poise and swing,
I dart down the steep where the lightnings leap,
And the clear blue canopy slowly sweep,
For dear to me is the revelry
Of a free and fearless liberty.

I love the land where the mountains stand,
Like the watch-towers high of a Patriot band,
For I may not bide in my glory and pride,
Though the land be never so fair and wide,
Where luxury reigns o'er voluptuous plains,
And fetters the free-born soul in chains.

Then give to me in my flights to see
The land of the Pilgrims *ever free!*
And I never will rove from the haunts I love,
But watch, from my sentinel track above,
Your banner free, o'er land and sea,
And exult in your glorious liberty.

O, guard ye well the land where I dwell,
Lest to future times the tale I tell,
When slow expires in smouldering fires
The goodly heritage of your sires,
How Freedom's light rose clear and bright
O'er fair Columbia's beacon height,
Till ye quenched the flame in a starless night.

Then will I tear from your pennon fair
The stars ye have set to triumph there;
My olive branch on the blast I'll launch,
The fluttering stripes from the flag-staff wrench,
And away I'll flee, for I scorn to see
A craven race in the land of the free!

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE LAKE OF THE MOUNTAIN.

During our Canadian sojourn, while we dwelt in that loveliest of all cottage retreats,—sweet Shady-Side,—which nestled among embowering trees, and overlooked the picturesque and most beautiful Bay of Quinte, my husband one day proposed we should take a drive to the far famed Lake of the Mountain, which lay about five miles distant down the Bay. Having procured an open carriage, with a black selim gaily prancing before it, the wee birdlings of our nest and a basket of lunch were packed in, and leaving the house and baby Charlie to the care of faithful Jenny, my maid of all work, we resolved to throw off the cares and responsibilities of life, and make the most of our so seldom afforded day's recreation. And none but those who have spent many weary months in the school-room, and sick chamber, can tell how intensely that ride was enjoyed. Report had told us much of the beauties of the way, and a trip by steam up the Bay had confirmed the tale, so we knew a rich treat was in store for us. And certainly, of all the pleasant memories my life affords, that ride is the richest in varied and beautiful views it has ever been my lot to enjoy.

Our route lay along the high ridges and table lands that extend back from the Bay, and its waters, like a sheet of silver, lay gleaming through the trees, with the white sails of the "Sea Bird" and "Flying Cloud" slowly gliding over its surface, now curving round some graceful point, then losing themselves behind the lofty headlands, that rose far above the water, their perpendicular sides half concealed by brier rose, blue bells, and wild honey-suckle which, creeping down their rocky face, kissed their shadows in the liquid mirror beneath. The opposite shore lay in fair beauty, with its green, sunny points, gently swelling hills and plains, luxuriant even to the water's edge, with highly cultivated farms, pleasant homes, parks and pleasure grounds, stretching away far as the eye could reach. And amid this magnificent panorama, ever changing, ever beautiful, one forgets in their enthusiasm to wish for the ruined castle or old monastery that should give it renown and perfect its glory.

But one must not linger too long on these romantic shores, though they are fresh and green in my memory as when I last looked upon them, many years ago. All too soon we found ourselves on the shore of the wondrous lake, which lay in gem-like beauty on the very brow of the mountain, three hundred feet above the waters of the Bay below. No source of supply has ever been discovered, nor its depth fathomed; its only outlet, a tiny stream, rushed in wild, playful leaps, down the precipitous side of the mountain.

With thoughtful and wrapt pleasure we greeted this fair lake-well of the mountain, musing upon its mysterious birth. Was it indeed the child of some ancient volcano, cradled in its extinct crater, and nourished from the hidden depths of the earth? Or was it, as others said, a fathomless fountain, fed subterraneously by distant Lake Erie, with which its altitude is said to correspond? And here fancy, taking a wild leap, suggested imaginative possibilities of its construction long ages ago, by that extinct race of men who once peopled this continent, traces of whose noble and highly civilized works yet remain. Had it been a reservoir with mains deep laid reaching to that distant lake whence they drew their primative "Croton" to supply the vast cities that may have extended on either side of the Bay, while Nineveh of old was yet the glory of the East? Time had left no records for us to study, and slowly we came back to the Lake before us. Strange and sombre it lay, everywhere surrounded by a dense forest, tall pines ever wafting o'er it their fragrance and solemn music, save where a little hamlet clustered between it and the Bay shore, with its neat white cottages and luxuriant fruit gardens. Here our little party stopped for rest and refreshment. An hour was spent in tracing out wild romantic paths in the woods, or, as the children willed, gamboling on the white sands that, like a gleaming line of light, encircled the water, contrasting finely with the dark, overhanging shades of the forest. At length, wearied and hungry, we sat down to lunch under the wild grape vines that formed graceful arbors amid the trees. Then with beauty and delight enough to keep our hearts fresh and glowing another three months term, we prepared for our homeward ride, and that, together with the pleasant tea-drinking at the quaint old mansion of "Burnside," was enjoyed with scarcely less pleasure than the morning's ride had been.

Mrs. F. A. Dick.

Buffalo, N. Y., 1861.

Useful, Scientific, &c.

WHAT A VOLCANO CAN DO.

Cotopaxi, in 1738, threw its fiery rockets 3,000 feet above its crater, while in 1744 the blazing mass, struggling for an outlet, roared so that its awful voice was heard a distance of more than 600 miles. In 1797 the crater of Tunguragua, one of the great peaks of the Andes, flung out torrents of mud, which dammed up rivers, opened new lakes, and in valleys of a thousand feet wide made deposits of 600 feet deep. The stream from Vesuvius, which in 1737 passed through Torre del Greco, contained 33,600,000 cubic feet of solid matter; and in 1794, when Torre del Greco was destroyed a second time, the mass of lava amounted to 45,000,000 cubic feet. In 1679, Etna poured forth a flood which covered eighty-four square miles of surface, and measured nearly 100,000,000 cubic feet. On this occasion the sand and scoriæ formed the Monte Rosi, near Nicolisi, a cone two miles in circumference, and 4,000 feet high. The stream thrown out by Etna in 1810 was in motion at the rate of a yard per day for nine months after the eruption; and it is on record that the lavas of the same mountain, after a terrible eruption, were not thoroughly cooled and consolidated ten years after the event. In the eruption of Vesuvius, A. D. 79, the scoriæ and ashes vomited forth far exceeded the entire bulk of the mountain, while in 1660 Etna disgorged more than twenty times its own mass. Vesuvius has thrown its ashes as far as Constantinople, Syria, and Egypt; it hurled stones eight pounds in weight to Pompeii, a distance of six miles, while similar masses were tossed up 2,000 feet above its summit. Cotopaxi has projected a block of 109 cubic yards in volume a distance of nine miles, and Sumbawa, in 1815, during the most terrible eruption on record, sent its ashes as far a Java, a distance of 300 miles of surface, and out of a population of 12,000 souls only twenty escaped.

* * *

OLD, OLD ENGLAND.

The mind finds it difficult to realize the idea that a country like England was once a steaming morass, covered with the rank tropical vegetation of the tree-fern groves; its awful silence only broken by the hum of the shardy beetle, the rush of the hideous flying-lizards through lofty woods of ferns and reeds, or the tramp of the giant Iguanodons over the plashy wolds. Imagination, left to itself, could scarcely have indulged in so wild a flight as to picture an era when palm trees waved in Kent and Hampshire, and the plains of Cumnor were the coral reefs of some primeval lagoon; when the tiger and hyæna lurked in the thickets of Kirkdale; when the trumpeting of the huge northern elephant was heard on the moors of Yorkshire and the downs of Brighton; when the bison fed on the plains, and the sullen river horse and rhinoceros browsed by the Thames and the Avon. Yet these things were. The hammer of the geologist, like the enchanter's wand, has conjured up more than one panorama of Old England, far more weird and wonderful than ever was fabled. The historian only seeks to trace back the annals of our Island to the days when it was first peopled by painted savages, living in wigwams like the red Indian or the beaver, and hunting with the rude bow and arrow; the geologist recalls the times when our island was the home of the dragon, the turtle, and the Iguanodon.—*All the Year Round.*

* * *

THE FALL OF AN AVALANCHE.

While we chatter over the dinner, wondering how many strawberries go for a spoonful, a terrible roar shakes the cabin. Up springs every man shouting "avalanche! avalanche!" and out we go into the open air. And there, right opposite, coming down the Jungfrau, is a most stupendous mass of ice and snow, dashing from one precipice to another, until beaten and crushed into powder, it rushes in one mighty "Niagara" of snow into the valley. The fall of that avalanche lasts two minutes by the watch. Its roar would drown the loudest tropical thunder. At first it is a break and a crash; then, like the tramp of millions of buffaloes on the prairie; and then, at last, like a thousand blasts of artillery. Though the avalanche is two miles off, some of us start back as if we feared that the descending mass would leap over the intervening chasm and burst in upon us. But it is only roar not ruin, as I hope it will turn out to be in this great political panic at Washington. This vast mass of snow and ice precipitated itself, fortunately, into a ravine that was perfectly uninhabitable. But not so with some others. Sometimes whole forests are swept away; and the stumps of the broken trees, after the ruin has passed, stand up, like the stubble upon a prairie wheat-field after a reaper has gone over it.—*Rev. T. S. Cuyler.*

* * *

Deaths in Royal Families.—The following personal items about royal families, are interesting:

Since January 1, 1860, fourteen members of the sovereign families of Europe have expired. The princes were Jerome Bonaparte, formerly King of Westphalia; Prince Danilo, Sovereign of Montenegro, who was assassinated; Prince Schamburg-Lippe; Paul William, Duke of Wurtemburg; the Prince of Syracuse, uncle of Ferdinand II. of Naples; the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; and now, latest of all, the King of Prussia. The princesses were the Dowager Queen of Sweden, widow of Bernadotte; Frederica Louisa, Empress Dowager of Russia; Anna Paulowne, Grand Duchess of Russia, sister of the King of the Belgians; Princess Caroline, widow of the Prince of Hohenzollern-Hechingen; and, at Constantinople, the Princess Nazlo Hanem, sister of Said Pacha, and eldest daughter of Mohamet Ali.

* * *

Mussel Shells.—Mussel shell-fish fasten themselves to piers with a material resembling coarse silk, which resists the force of the most powerful waves. The French engineers at Cherbourg have availed themselves of this faculty of the mussel to bind their great breakwaters. Those consist of loose masses of stone; and on them are planted several tons of this shellfish, that they may bind all firmly together with their strong cordage. In this, it is said, they have succeeded.

The Young Ruralist.

THE KIND, ENTERPRISING BOY.

Passing down one of the streets in Milwaukee, the other day, my attention was attracted by the shouting of a boy, who was driving a pig from the side-walk, in front of a fruit and grocery store. The pig had upset sundry baskets of fruit, nuts, &c., and was helping himself, as if in welcome to their contents. The grocer, who soon appeared at the door, took a different view of things, and hurling a two pound weight at the intruder, remarked, "that pig is getting too familiar about here." The boy assisted in collecting together the scattered fruits, and things were soon in good shape again. The grocer offered to pay for the assistance rendered, but the boy refused it, intimating that that was a trifling matter, for which he wanted no remuneration. The grocer, however, insisted on filling his pockets with nuts and apples. The boy was dressed in coarse attire, which, however, looked tidy and clean,—and a blush could be seen stealing across his manly face, as if ashamed of being rewarded for the small assistance he had rendered.

Shortly after, we went down to the office of the *Daily Wisconsin,* to get a copy of the Inaugural Message, which was there being received by telegraph, and issued in an extra. There was a great crowd of news-boys about the office, all anxious to be the first served, and among the first emerging from the crowd, we noticed the boy of nuts and apples, with a bundle of the messages under his arm. As he passed near me, he turned to a smaller boy with a lame and withered leg, who stood with a downcast and disappointed look, leaning on his crutch, and thus accosted him, "I say, Jimmy, can you get no messages?" Jimmy replied that the crowd was so great he could not get to where they were being sold. "Here, hold my bundle," said the boy of apples and nuts, "I'll get you some,—how many do you want?" "About fifteen," said the lame boy, "and here is the money to buy them." "How good you are, George," ejaculated Jimmy, and his countenance brightened. George soon returned with the messages, and giving them to Jimmy, took his own bundle, and was off with an elastic step.

By this time I had become interested in the boy, and lingered around to see how Jimmy would succeed in selling his messages. Jimmy appeared rather timid for a news-boy, and I doubted if he would succeed in disposing of his stock, while his friend George, who appeared efficient, energetic, and self-reliant, was made of different material, and was evidently well fitted for the rough and tumbles of the world, and to engage fearlessly in, and fight manfully the battles of life. Jimmy, however, succeeded better than I had supposed, his smiling face and gentle winning voice was attractive, and brought him customers.

In a short time, George, having disposed of his papers, was returning for another supply, and meeting Jimmy, inquired of his success. "Pretty good," said Jimmy, "I have sold all but four, and wish I was rid of them, for it is most dark, and I am tired and hungry." "Hungry," said George, "here, take these apples," and he placed two beautiful red ones in his hand, and filled one of his pockets with nuts. "You rob yourself," said Jimmy. "No, I have plenty," exclaimed the generous boy, and was starting away; but he stopped short, and turning to Jimmy, said, "I just had an order for four messages at No. 40, ——, you go up with yours,—no, stay here," said he, "you are tired, and I'll run up and deliver them for you." George was off in a trice, and soon returned with the change, which he put in Jimmy's hand, and with a kindly good night, started for more messages. Jimmy departed for his home.

I left for my quarters, with kindlier and more hopeful feelings toward my fellow man,—rejoicing to think there was some unselfishness in the world, an example of which I had just witnessed in the conduct of the noble lad, George. That boy, said I, will succeed, and the world will be better for his having lived in it; and though his kindness and benevolence should go unrequited, his motives and acts maligned, he will not indulge in hatred or ill will towards his fellow man, for his generous nature will not heed the malicious calumnies of vile traducers. He will never starve, for the ravens would be commissioned to feed him, or manna would be showered in his pathway. Nor will he be frozen, for his great heart will be sending out warm, gushing streams, which neither the blasts of winter nor the cold uncharitableness of the world can congeal.

O. O.

Port Washington, March, 1861.

* * *

QUERIES FOR "MINNIE MINTWOOD."

If Paul Morphy "recklessly squandered" his time,—if the time which he devoted to moving "bits of ivory over a checkered board," and excelling all others in playing chess, was wasted,—if his talent was of an *inferior order,* of no *benefit* to his fellows,—why do we find his name classed as a contributor to one of our most popular papers, with the most celebrated writers of the day? The character and standing of the paper, together with the *talent* employed, is at once determined when H. W. Beecher and Edward Everett are among its contributors. It can hardly be expected that *every one* will delve into mathematics, philosophy, or metaphysics, or make ministers, and Sisters of Charity. No two *think* or *act* just alike.

Again, if Monsieur Blondin showed a great similarity between a fool and himself,—if his performance was of such a *low* order, and people were devoid of *intellect* and *common sense* who witnessed his performances,—why did his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, with the Lords in attendance, stay to witness his feats, and at the close reward him with a purse of gold? This is rather a sweeping assertion against royalty. How natural it is for the human heart to criticise the doings of others.

Rusticus.

Meadow Brook, Empire State, 1861.

* * *

Verbal Vices.—Indulgence in verbal vice soon encourages corresponding vices in conduct. Let any one of you come to talk about any mean or vile practice with a familiar tone, and do you suppose, when the opportunity occurs for committing the mean or vile act, he will be so strong against it as before? It is by no means an unknown thing that men of correct lives talk themselves into crime, into sensuality, into perdition. Bad language easily runs into bad deeds. Select any iniquity you please; suffer yourself to converse in its dialect, to use its slang, to speak in the character of one who approves or relishes it, and I need not tell you how soon your moral sense will lower down its level. Becoming intimate with it, you lose your horror of it. This obvious principle, of itself, furnishes a reason for watching the tongue.—*F. D. Huntington, D. D.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Re-issue of the Great Histories—Harper & Brothers.
Schenectady Ag'l Works—G. Westinghouse & Co.
Strawberry Plants, &c.—Geo. F. [illegible]
Cutter's Seedling Strawberry Plants, &c.—J. W. Manning.
Apple and Pear Trees—J. L. Cady.
Agents Wanted—Waters & Ve[illegible]Aodan.
Harrows and Cultivators—Chas. E. Pease.
The Right kind of Water Pipe—I. S. Hobbie.
Native Evergreen Trees, &c.—Wm. Mann.
Buckeye Mower and Reaper—John P. Adriance.
Plum Stocks, &c.—T. T. Southwick.
Garnet Chili Potato—T. B. Bishop.
Farm for Sale—Alex. H. Grant.
Evergreens, &c.—Edward Dierson.
Agents Wanted—Ephraim Brown.
Isabella Grape Roots—H. Payne.
Agents Wanted to Sell Trees—Cole and Hamilton.
Italian Bees and Queens—M. M. Baldridge.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Important to Farmers—J. W. Hannah and D. Kingsley.
Brown's Troches for Public Speakers and Singers.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL 6, 1861.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Affairs at Washington.

IT is said that the Government has received advices that Texas has sent Commissioners to Arizona, New Mexico, Sonora, and Chihuahua, to induce the people of those places to join in the Southern Confederacy, and the mission is said to be favorably regarded. Gov. Houston writes to the President that the Indians are threatening Texas, and asking if the Federal Government can or will afford relief. Several gentlemen who arrived from Texas within a day or two, state that in conversation with Gov. Houston a few days since, he stated that civil war in Texas was inevitable, and Alabama would soon be involved in the same dilemma as Texas now is.

There is a prospect now that every dollar of the $8,000,000 loan advertised for by Secretary Chase, will be taken at fair rates.

The Post Master General is experiencing some trouble from the new mail agents in Virginia. The people along the routes threaten tar and feathers to the unlucky agents if they attempt to do their duty. One has already resigned, and the other, it is thought, will throw up his commission. Several Virginia Republicans have presented themselves for the vacancies, and will serve at all hazards. If the people interrupt them, the mails are likely to be cut off. The Department, under the provisions of the recently enacted laws, has restored the mail service between Georgetown and Lexington, Mo.

Intelligence received on the 27th ult., from Montgomery, states that by the 1st of April there would be concentrated at Pensacola, 5,000 troops from the Confederate States. This sudden movement of troops in that direction was made before the statement that reinforcements had been sent from New York to Fort Pickens. The Montgomery government deemed it advisable to be wholly prepared for any emergency.

The claims of American citizens against Chili have been referred to the arbitration of Belgium. Caleb Cushing is their principle counsel.

Capt. Fox has returned from Fort Sumter, and reports the supply of provisions too meagre to enable Major Anderson to sustain his command reasonably until the 15th of April. He says the Fort can be reinforced by military operations which would require a force not at the disposal of the President, or by stratagem, with the hazards of a desperate conflict. From all the facts realized by this investigation, it is evident that Fort Sumter must be abandoned or civil war inaugurated.

The President has received several applications from Louisiana for Cadetship at West Point.

G. W. Lane, recently confirmed Judge of Alabama, it is said, will endeavor to hold his Court at Athens, in the Union part of the State.

The opinion is almost universal now, that an extra session of Congress will be called to consider the operations of the new tariff, and the state of the Treasury.

Orders have gone West to confiscate all goods introduced into Southern ports without payment of regular United States duties.

It is said that Fort Pickens was re-inforced more than a week ago, and that several hundred United States troops were taken in from vessels off the stream, by small boats at night. The Southern Commissioners, however, doubt the truth of the report, and profess to have assurances from their Government to the contrary.

U. S. Senate—Extra Session.

ON motion of Mr. Powell, it was resolved that the President be requested to communicate to the Senate, if not incompatible with public interest, dispatches from Major Anderson to the War Department during the time he has been in command of Fort Sumter.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following message from the President:

To the Senate of the United States:

> I have received a copy of a resolution of the Senate, passed on the 25th inst., requesting me, if in my opinion, it is not incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to the Senate the dispatches of Major Robert Anderson to the War Department during the time he has been in command at Fort Sumter.
>
> On examination of the correspondence thus called for, although I have the highest respect for the Senate, I have come to the conclusion that at the present moment the publication of it would be inexpedient.
>
> (Signed) ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
>
> Washington, March 26, 1861.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the resolution of Mr. Douglas in reference to the forts, navy yards, arsenals, and other property in the seceded States.

The question was taken up on motion of Mr. Grimes, on laying Mr. Douglas' resolution on the table—23 against 11.

Mr. Breckenridge moved to take up the resolution introduced by him yesterday, advising the withdrawal of the Federal troops from the seceded States. He did not intend making any remarks, as he had already expressed his views on the subject, and desired the vote on his motion to be regarded as a test question. After further debate the vote was taken—19 to 10. No quorum.

Mr. Trumbull offered a resolution declaring that in the opinion of the Senate, the way to preserve the Union is to enforce the laws of the Union. That resistance to their enforcement, whether under the name of anti-coercion, or any other name, is disunion, and that it is the duty of the President to use all the means in his power to hold and protect the property of the United States, and enforce the laws thereof, as well in the States of Mississippi, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas, as within the other States in the Union. Mr. Trumbull said he offered the resolution as expressive of the views he entertained. He desired to have it printed, and would be glad if he could have a vote on it.

Loud calls here arose on the Democratic side for the yeas and nays on the resolution, but without taking the question, or its adoption, the Senate went into Executive Session. On opening the doors, Mr. Baker and Mr. Bright were appointed a Committee in accordance with a resolution, to wait on the President and inform him that the Senate was ready to adjourn. Several Executive messages were received, and the Senate again went into Executive Session.

Subsequently a resolution involving $6,000 or $7,000 for the purchase of the Annals of Congress, and Register of Debates, was discussed, and postponed till December.

The President having no further communication to make, the Senate, at four o'clock on the 28th ult., adjourned *sine die.*

The Secession Movement.

VIRGINIA.—The Virginia secessionists are beginning to despair of passing a direct ordinance of secession, and are urging the adoption of the Arkansas plan, to submit to the people the question of secession or co-operation. The Union men are confident that secession would be voted down by a large majority, but they are unwilling to involve the State in the bitter contest which would result, and therefore oppose such submission.

MISSISSIPPI.—The State Convention ratified the Constitution of the Confederate States, by a vote of 78 to 7.

TEXAS.—The Texas State Convention ratified the Constitution of the Southern Confederacy with but two dissenting voices. The Convention adjourned *sine die* on the 25th inst., without referring the Constitution to the people. The Legislature passed a resolution approving the convention act and opposing Houston. A bill was passed to raise a regiment of mounted riflemen for frontier protection. Since the departure of the Federal troops, Indians in large numbers have been devastating the frontier, killing and driving back the settlers.

LOUISIANA.—The Convention, before adjourning, passed an ordinance permitting Insurance Companies to invest their capital in bonds of the Confederate Government.

FLORIDA.—The Florida Convention ratified the Confederate Constitution. An act just passed by the Florida Legislature, declares that in the event of any actual collision between the troops of the late federal Union and those in the employ of the State of Florida, it shall be the duty of the Governor of the State to make public proclamation of the fact, and thereafter the act of holding office under the federal government shall be declared treason, and the person convicted *shall suffer death!* This act was approved by the Governor of the State on the 14th ultimo.

ARIZONA.—The Governor of Arizona, in reply to the Commissioners appointed by Texas to confer with New Mexico and Arizona, in regard to the formation of a Confederacy, had invited them to be present at a Convention to be held in Mesilla on the 16th of March, to consider the present crisis.

Legislature of New York.

SENATE.—W. H. Ferry, of Oneida, was appointed President *pro tem* for the balance of the session, displacing Senator Lapham, whose election was construed only to have been for one session, by a vote of 11 to 8.

Mr. Williams presented a communication from Inspector Kennedy, on behalf of Commissioners of Metropolitan Police, in reply to a resolution of the Senate, calling for information as to members of the Police having been sent to other States. The substance of the report is, that soon after the election in November last, serious apprehensions existed of disturbance of the public peace in the city of New York; that there was reason to believe the causes of the apprehended disturbances had their origin elsewhere than in the city or State of New York. To trace them to their source, the Superintendent of Police, in the exercise of discretionary power lodged with him, deemed it to be expedient to detail certain detectives to Washington, and other places. They were thus sent to Washington, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. The information was of a confidential character, and from the nature of the system which governs detective police business, it would be destructive to the efficiency of the force if the sources of this information and its character should be revealed.

Concurrent resolutions to amend the Constitution, and with reference to the Court of Appeals, and salaries of Judges, was considered in committee of the whole, and passed. The bill to provide for submission to the people of the State, the question of calling a Convention to revise and amend the Constitution, was taken up and passed.

The bill to impose tolls on Railroads being moved in the general order, Mr. Forman moved to lay the bill on the table. Ayes and nays demanded, and the motion was carried—47 to 37. This probably kills the bill for this session.

BILLS PASSED.—To legalize the decisions of Arbitrators to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce; to amend the charter of the New York Commercial Exchange; to prevent the adulteration of milk, and stop the traffic in swill milk; to amend the act relating to the transmission to the office of the Secretary of State, records of conviction; concerning the incorporation of the Chamber of Commerce, New York; to punish for cruelty to animals; to amend revised statutes relative to wife desertion; to allow the Supervisors of New York to procure a site for a Court House; the New York Post Office site bill.

The Senate concurred with the Assembly on the Susquehanna Railroad bill, which now goes to the Governor.

ASSEMBLY.—Mr. Ball presented a minority report against repealing the Sunday laws in New York and Brooklyn, so far as to allow the sale of lager beer, ale, and malt liquors on Sunday. The report says the German population are divided on the question, half of them being opposed to the proposed amendment, and taking strong grounds against the sale of beer on Sunday, as leading to immorality as much as the sale of liquors.

Mr. Woodroff made a unanimous report from the Committee on cities and villages, in favor of repealing section 31 of the Metropolitan Police Law; which creates the office of Inspector of Police. The Committee deem the office of Inspector of Police unnecessary.

BILLS PASSED.—The bill passed by the Senate to amend the acts relative to inland navigation Insurance Companies, allowing all Companies to insure lake and river risks; requiring foreign Insurance Companies to present annual statements of their condition and affairs; to submit the question of calling a Convention to revise the Constitution, and to amend the same, to the people of the State; to incorporate the Loaner's Association in the city of New York; to extend time for the construction of a Railroad on the berm side of the Chenango Canal; to provide for the appointment of Justices of District Courts of New York, and their compensation; in addition to act relating to foreclosure sale of N. Y. & E. Railroad; authorizing the division of towns into election districts.

Personal and Political.

SAMUEL SHAW, late Chief Justice of Massachusetts, died the 30th ult., at his residence in Mount Vernon street, Boston. He fell dead while conversing, and being in the act of dressing himself in his room. He has lately been in feeble health.

THE following joint resolutions passed the Missouri House on the 28th ult., 62 against 42:

> Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the General Assembly to take any steps for calling a National Convention, to propose amendments to the Constitution as recommended by the State Convention.

THOMAS P. SHAWCROSS, Special Agent of the Post Office Department, took possession of the Chicago Post Office on the 29th ult., by order of President Lincoln, for causes alleged for arrears and faulty accounts running through even a larger period than the present quarter.

THE Lower House of the Kansas Legislature organized on the 28th by the election of U. T. De Graff, Rep., Speaker. He is understood to favor Parrot and Lane for U. S. Senators.

Gov. Robinson's Message is mainly devoted to local affairs. He recommends suitable acknowledgments by the Legislature for the generous relief given for the needy citizens of Kansas. He recommends that the credit of the State be used for the relief of her citizens if necessary. He says seed has been furnished in abundance for planting, and hopes that the general call for relief will soon cease.

From the Pacific Side.

CALIFORNIA.—The Legislature has been balloting for several days to elect a U. S. Senator. It requires 58 votes to elect, and Jas. A. McDougal leads with 32. Without new combinations no Senator can be elected this winter.

The Assembly has passed charter bills for the San Francisco Horse Railroad Companies.

Accounts from Bisaka represent a brisk emigration to the Caso, Maralva and Colorado gold and silver mines. Probably some thousands of Californians will spend the ensuing summer in exploring and developing the extensive regions lying to the south east of this State, in Utah and New Mexico.

The Washoe mining developments continue favorable. The stock in the principle mines is advancing. Shares in the Ophir mine are selling at $100 and $200 per foot, and parties predict that $2,000 will be the market price within six months.

The Senate adopted the resolution endorsing Mr. Crittenden's plan of adjustment, condemning coercion and recommending conciliation and compromise.

The Assembly had passed a series of strong Union resolutions. That body refused to concur in the Crittenden Compromise resolutions as passed by the Senate.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—The civil jurisdiction heretofore exercised on the Island by Washington Territory will be discontinued, and Capt. Pickett's authority will be most absolute.

The colonies of Vancouver and British Columbia will be represented at the World's Fair in 1862.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—The schooner W. L. Richardson brings Sandwich Islands dates to Feb. 14th.

On the 10th of that month the U. S. sloop-of-war Wyoming, arrived at Honolulu from Panama, via Helo and Lonnia, in search of the sloop-of-war Levant, supposed to be lost. The Honolulu Advertiser of Feb. 14th, has the following speculation on the subject:

> There is every reason to believe that the U. S. sloop-of-war Levant has met with some serious accident after leaving Helo. It was Captain Hunt's intention to have taken a northerly course from the land till he judged that he could fetch the port of Acapulco, where he proposed going first to forward his despatches to Washington. In looking back over our shipping memoranda, we find that the whaling barks Emerald, Robert Morrison, Florence and Braganza, and ships Republic, Coral and Majestic, each report severe gales in from 30 deg. to 45 deg. north lat., from Oct. 3d to 10th, wind southwest, in which they all received more or less damage. Had the Levant simply been disabled, she could have reached those islands under jury masts, or the boats could have got here. The conclusion forces itself on us that she met with a disaster which has proved fatal to the ship and all on board.

News Paragraphs.

CAEN, in Normandy, is celebrated for its horse shows. It takes down Springfield altogether. Think of crowds of visitors and purchasers making their appearance ten days before the regular fair day, of stables sold out three or four times in advance, and of five thousand horses being disposed of without difficulty during the exhibition!

THERE have been but two postmasters in the city of Charleston since the days of Washington. Gen. Washington appointed Mr. Balot in 1787, who served until his death, when the present incumbent, Mr. Huger, (pronounced Ugee) was appointed by Mr. Monroe. Mr. Huger is now over 70 years of age.

A PACK of wolves gathered round the house of Mrs. T. C. Higgins, at Bridget Creek, near Eaucleire, Wis., one evening last week, for a feast upon a calf in one of the outhouses. Mrs. H. being very desirous of saving the veal, put strychnine upon some meat and threw it among her unwelcome visitors. Her husband, on returning home soon after, found twelve wolves lying dead near the house.

THE following card, published in the National Intelligencer explains itself:—"Gen. Scott (to his correspondents) begs to say, that of their innumerable letters he does not find it practicable, (being quite infirm,) to read one in five, nor to answer one in thirty. Applications for autographs and offices are burdensome. The former increases with his inability to use the pen, and of the latter, he has, within his own gift, but two small places, (long well filled,) and he recommends no one whatever, other than an old soldier, nor for any office not of the army."

THE widow of Yturbide, formerly Emperor of Mexico, died in Philadelphia, last week, at an advanced age. Yturbide was elected Emperor in 1822, but the political troubles induced him to abdicate in about a year, and with his family he went to Italy. Two years later he returned to Mexico, was declared a traitor, and shot within a week after landing. The Mexican government allowed his widow a pension, and she removed to Philadelphia, where she has lived since 1825, and has brought up a family and made a large circle of friends. She lived very quiet, and but few of her fellow-citizens know that Philadelphia numbered among its residents an ex-Empress.

SCOTT township, in Fremont county, Iowa, we learn, has actually *seceded* from the county; and "set up for itself." A list of grievances was enumerated, and commissioners were appointed to confer with other disaffected townships. A good burlesque on secession.

FROM observations made by the Coast Survey, it has been determined that the tidal wave in Boston harbor flows in from the sea at the rate of fifty miles per hour. The wave travels the entire distance from Boston Lower Light to the Charleston Dry Dock in twenty minutes.

A DOSE of medicine, composed of two pounds camphor, dissolved in three gallons of whisky, was given to Van Amburgh's elephant, Hannibal, the other day. This dose is about equal to twenty drops of the same mixture to a human being. Of whisky, Hannibal is extravagantly fond.

SOME friends of the horse are discussing in the English sporting papers the question whether this animal may not easily be accustomed to do without shoes on ordinary pavements. They contend that the natural hoof may, by practice, become strong enough to dispense with the iron shoe.

ON the 19th ult., a schooner hauling out from San Francisco, California, hoisted the Palmetto flag. A crowd instantly assembled on the wharf, and by a well-directed fire of potatoes, compelled the would-be secessionists not only to haul down the obnoxious colors, but to hoist the "Stars and Stripes" in their place.

THE steamship Adriatic has been sold to the Galway Steamship Company at a ruinous sacrifice, compared with her original cost. In addition to first cost, the North Atlantic Steamship Company expended about $90,000 on her engines, making her total cost about $1,200,000. She was sold for £87,500—about $457,500.

IN 1827, it took twelve days and cost $57 to travel from Cincinnati to New York. The route was by way of Hillsborough, Chillicothe, Lancaster, Zanesville, Wheeling, Washinton, Pa., Brownesville, Cumberland, Hagarstown, Hancock, Frederick, Baltimore, and Philadelphia. Now the Railroads will carry one in thirty-six hours, and at a cost of eighteen or twenty dollars.

IMPRISONMENT OF WITNESSES.—In condemning the laws in force, relating to witnesses in criminal cases, the Utica Herald relates the following:—"Not long since, a man was 'kept' in the Tombs as a witness against one of the most notorious ruffians in New York city. Justice forgot to call him up on the trial. How long he remained confined we know not, but when it finally occured to the authorities to release him, it was found that the man against whom he was expected to testify, had been tried, convicted, sent to State Prison, *pardoned, and been at large several months!* Thus, while crime was enjoying the sweetness of liberty, innocence was rotting in a dungeon."

* * *

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.—A Paris letter in the Times says the French and English Governments are fitting out a powerful fleet of war steamers for the United States. The suggestion came from England. France will furnish three first class frigates; the English contingent will perhaps be much larger. The fleet will sail with sealed orders. Spain is also prepared to send a formidable force to the Gulf of Mexico, though not working in connection with France and England.

Parliament news unimportant, the main features being the navy estimates voted.

Mr. Gregory had given notice that he would at an early day call the attention of the government to the expediency of prompt recognition of the Southern Confederacy of America.

The Government is said to have received dispatches from the Consul at Warsaw, generally confirming the published accounts. Mr. Gladstone promised to introduce the budget on the 11th of April.

The London Times asks when the Confederate States are to negotiate the proposed loan, seeing that one-fifth of their population is pledged to repudiation. It says President Davis is the man who laughed at dupes in Mississippi bonds.

FRANCE.—The French Corps Legislatif is engaged in debating the Emperor's address. The main topic was the Italian policy, which several members strongly denounced, asserting that the English policy proved victorious in Italy. One member warned the government against the suicidal policy, and predicted internal danger ahead. The Ministers protested against his speech and defended the Emperor's course.

Another conference on the Syrian question took place on the 11th. An arrangement is soon expected. The French papers are publishing dispatches announcing the threatening attitude of the Mussulmen towards the Christians at Syria.

ITALY.—The details of the surrender of Messina, show that it was unconditional. Over 5,000 prisoners, and 300 cannon were taken.

Civitilla del Tronto will not be able to resist much longer.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies unanimously approved the assumption of the title of King.

Cavour presented the project law, proclaiming the kingdom of Italy attached to the lower branch of the Italian Parliament. He denied that Sardinia was negotiating at Rome.

There was an encounter a few days since in Rome, between a French regiment and 700 Papal Zouaves. The French Colonel was killed and three men were wounded.

Romano had tendered his resignation as Minister of the Interior at Naples.

The Italian army will be divided into six corps d'armee. Four corps under Cialdini to go to Bologna.

POLAND.—All was quiet at Warsaw, but it is asserted that the agitation, though muffled, was increasing. Russian troops continue to arrive. A separate council of State had been granted by the Emperor to the Kingdom of Poland. Zamoiski had been appointed President.

TURKEY.—English steamers left Constantinople for Galatz and took provisional possession of arms landed from Sardinian vessels and seized by Turkey.

Differences had occurred between Sir H. Bulwer and the American minister to Turkey, and Bulwer had declined to attend the latter's reception on Washington's birthday.

CHINA.—Pekin was quiet. Troops were at Tein Sein. The treaty was working satisfactorily. The rebels had been defeated by the Imperialists at Ebeln. Affairs at Japan were peaceful.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE—*Breadstuffs.*—Flour was quiet at former rates, 28s@31s. Wheat moderate at full prices of Tuesday. Red 11s3d@13s; white 12s6d@14s6d. Corn in fair request, and in cases a shade dearer; yellow 37s@38s6d; white 38s@39s.

Provisions—Pork quiet. No American offering.

London Markets—Baring Bros. & Co. report English wheat 1s dearer; white American 63s@67s; red 59s@63s.

The News Condenser.

— Abd-el-Kader is about to visit France.

— The Welland canal will be opened on the 8th inst.

— No State tax is to be levied in Illinois for the next two years.

— The Pontifical debt is four hundred and thirty million francs.

— Kansas contains as much territory as all the Cotton States.

— The prospect for a sugar crop in Louisiana is very flattering.

— Lady Franklin and niece have arrived safely in San Francisco.

— There were 31 candidates for the vacant senatorship of Pennsylvania.

— At Marshall's great cabinet in Oswego, may be seen coins 2,500 years old.

— Capt. Ericsson is about to obtain a patent in England for his hot air engine.

— The estimated value of the exports from Milwaukee, for 1860, is $12,774,700.

— The $15,000,000 loan of the Southern Confederacy has not yet been taken.

— Troops from different portions of the South are concentrating at Pensacola.

— The Cariboo diggings in British Columbia are represented to be of extraordinary value.

— They manufacture pencil cases in England from human bones, gathered in Sebastopol!

— The old established London Morning Chronicle has reduced its price to one penny.

— The Jefferson Co. Union notices the alarming prevalence of scarlet fever in that vicinity.

— The Levant Herald predicts a general suspension of the merchants and bankers of Galatia.

— The new British Bankruptcy bill, to go into operation in October next, contains 256 clauses.

— The Viceroy of Egypt has been spending five days in prayer, at the tomb of Mohammed.

— The Utica Observer says that scarlet fever is prevailing to a considerable extent in that city.

— Orders have been received at New York Navy Yard to fit the frigates Wabash and Roanoke.

— Navigation is now open on the Western division of the main line of the Pennsylvania canal.

— The total number of postage stamps issued by the P. O. department for 1860, was 223,867,270.

— The mind of the Empress Eugenie is tottering. Cause, religious excitement and spiritualism.

— The old abdicated Emperor of Austria, Ferdinand, is now tottering in the last stage of senility.

— In the account of ex-Treasurer Cobb, is charged for penknives, for the year, the amount of $255.50.

— Gen. Wool is confined to his bed by sickness, and is said to be so ill as to be unable to see his friends.

— Ten cents each was the net income of five postoffices in Florida, for the year ending September, 1859.

— The Court of Appeals met last week, for the first time in eight or nine years, in the city of New York.

— It costs from four to five hundred dollars to inflate a balloon, thirty feet in diameter, with hydrogen gas.

— Millholland, of Philadelphia, is now in France, constructing locomotives on his plan for burning anthracite coal.

— The merchants and storekeepers on the docks and pier at Albany, are again flooded out, for the third time this year.

— It is said that the author of the popular tune, "Dixie's Land," has realized four thousand dollars from his copyright.

— In the United States, the last year, 140 Roman Catholic churches have been erected, with accommodations for 100,000 people.

— At the vote for Postmaster of St. Clairsville, Ohio, a lady named Mrs. Ramsey was chosen by 26 majority over two gentlemen.

— During the past year, the building and refitting of vessels for the English navy, cost more than one million and a half pounds.

— A writer for the N. Y. Tribune estimates that above 5,000 wells have been opened in the oil regions, of which not over 200 pay.

— In 1658 the aggregate tonnage of the whole English navy was only 11,820 tons, or about one-half of the Great Eastern.

— The number of European emigrants arriving in New York, is said to be greater at present than at the same period last year.

— Since last November there have been 5,400,000 of old cents received at the Philadelphia mint and exchanged for new ones.

— Every person in Great Britain pays annually on average of about three pounds sterling for the support of the government.

— A severe snow storm in Virginia, on the 18th ult., caused great destruction among fruits and vegetables. The fruit trees were in blossom.

— The population of Canada West, by the last census, amounts to 1,460,000, that of Canada East 1,300,000—making total of 2,760,000.

— It is proposed to increase the number of Bishops in England, the number at present being only the same as an hundred years ago.

— A disease known as spotted fever prevails to a great extent in Dauphin and Lebanon counties, Pa., and has proved fatal in many cases.

— Louis Napoleon is charged with an increasing annual expenditure of $70,000,000, and an annual increase of public debt of $50,000,000.

— Three of the great powers of Europe—England, France, and Prussia—are now committed to the cause of Italian independence and unity.

— About $100,000 worth of hard india rubber, for the manufacture of combs, is imported annually from the United States into England.

— The State Senate of Ohio, last week, by a vote of twenty-six to five, passed a resolution recommending the call of a National Convention.

— Handsome velvet pile carpets are now sold in England at 75 cents per yard (our money,) about half what is asked for them in New York.

— Chas. F. Adams is the sixth Massachusetts man who has been selected as the representative of the United States at the Court of St. James.

— Gov. Magoffin, of Kentucky, has vetoed the bill authorizing the banks of that State to issue $4,000,000 in notes, redeemable in two years.

— The Nantucket Enquirer states, with natural pride in climate, that among the 500 legal voters in the town, 130 are upward of 70 years of age.

— Since the United States troops have left the Texan frontier, the Indians have become very troublesome, and have committed several murders.

— Balmoral shirts are now largely manufactured in the United States. So large an order as for 10,000 has lately been given by a New York dealer.

— The number of cottages engaged at Newport is larger than ever before so early in the season, and the list of names embraces many Southerners.

— The prospect for a bountiful wheat crop was never better in Tennessee, at this season of the year. In Kentucky the wheat crop is also promising.

— The London Dispatch says there are more British admirals than ships, more generals than regiments, more captains of artillery and engineers than guns.

— With a due sense of their own importance, the New York Common Council have presented themselves each with a gold badge, at a cost of $12 or $16 apiece.

— The prospects for business at Louisville, Ky., are so discouraging that many leading merchants have published an appeal to landlords to reduce the rents.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

THE Charleston, S. C., Courier says the recent snow storm there created great wonderment and admiration of the novel scene. The snow was two inches deep and lasted just two hours. It beats anything there since '53.

IN Chicago, Milwaukee, and nearly all of the ports upon the upper lakes, vessels are preparing to "get under weigh," and it is thought within one week hence most of the shipping will be entirely rigged and refitted for service.

BETWEEN January 10 and March 6, there were shipped from Columbus, Ohio, by the American and Adams Express Companies, 403 barrels of wild pigeons, each barrel containing about 400 — making a total of 161,200 pigeons.

THE trial and condemnation of the Abbe Mallet at Douai for the abduction and conversion of a family of Jewish girls, excites much interest in Catholic circles in France. The Abbe was condemned to six years solitary confinement.

IN consequence of the ill-construction and bad ventilation of the school-houses in and about London, seven thousand children, between the ages of five and fifteen years, annually lose their lives from these causes alone. So says Dr. Hillier, Secretary of the Metropolitan Medical Association.

Special Notices.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS!

To those who wish to purchase a perfect "COMBINED REAPER AND MOWER," we would say that "BALL'S OHIO MOWER AND REAPER" is manufactured at the Auburn Prison by Messrs. ROSS, DODGE & POMEROY, sole proprietors for the State of New York, for the use of these valuable patents. The machine is made of the best materials, and warranted to be a perfect Mower or Reaper, and to cut easily, without clogging, any kind of grain or grass, either wet or dry

The Mower has a Cast Steel Cutter Bar, 4 feet 6 inches cut, with polished wrought iron guards, plated in the Slot with Cast Steel, and tempered.

The Reaping attachment has a Finger Bar and polished wrought iron guards attached to it, with a Sickle-edged Knife, which, for cutting grain, is far better than the smooth-edge mowing knives generally used. By means of the separate Finger Bar and Sickle, they are enabled to make the Reaper cut either 5 or 6 foot swath, and dispense with the heavy Mowing Bar when reaping.

The Combined Reaper and Mower is delivered to the purchaser for the sum of $150, for a six months' note without interest, or $145 cash. The Mower is $30 less.

The agents for Monroe County are [586-8te

J. W. HANNAH, of Clifton, Monroe Co., N. Y.
DANIEL KINGSLEY, of Pittsford, Monroe Co., N. Y.

THROAT AFFECTIONS.

From Rev E. Rowley, A. M., President Athens College, Athens, Tenn.—"I have found great benefit from the use of 'Brown's Bronchial Troches,' before and after preaching, as they prevent hoarseness, to which I am very subject. I think from their past effect they will be of permanent advantage to me. Several clergymen of my acquaintance, to whom I have given the Troches, have been benefited by them."

The Publisher to the Public.

To All Our Readers.

A New Quarter of the RURAL *begins this week, and subscriptions and renewals are specially in order now — to commence with April, or January if preferred.*

☞ *The very liberal* SPECIFIC PREMIUMS *and* EXTRA GIFTS *offered for Clubs formed before April, are* EXTENDED TO MAY, *so that Agent-Friends, Subscribers and others have another month to secure the Valuable Prizes. Read the list (including the new offer of* CHOICE FLOWER SEEDS,) *on lage page, and see if it will not pay to form a club. Thousands would readily subscribe for the paper if asked. Will not its friends have the kindness to see that such are invited?*

Book Numbers of this Volume will be sent to New Subscribers, until otherwise announced; but all wishing them should *Subscribe Soon.*

☞ THE RURAL is published strictly upon the CASH SYSTEM — copies are never mailed to individual subscribers until paid for, and always discontinued when the subscription expires. Hence, we force the paper upon none, and keep no credit books, experience having demonstrated that the Cash System is altogether the best for both Subscriber and Publisher.

☞ CLUBBING WITH THE MAGAZINES, &c.— We will send the RURAL NEW-YORKER for 1861 and a yearly copy of either *The Atlantic, Harper's, Godey's*, or any other $3 magazine, for $4. The RURAL and either *The Horticulturist, Hovey's Magazine, Arthur's Magazine*, or *any other* $2 magazine, for $3. Canada subscribers must add the American postage.

☞ ASSOCIATED EFFORT leads to success in canvassing for periodicals, as well as in other enterprises. For instance, if you are forming (or wish to form) a club for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and cannot fill it up in your own neighborhood, get some person or persons a few miles distant to join with or assist you—adding their names to those you may procure, and sending all together. Please think of this, and act upon the suggestion if convenient.

☞ VOLUNTARY AGENTS FOR THE RURAL.—Any and every Subscriber or reader is requested to act in behalf of the RURAL, by forming clubs or otherwise. *Now is the time* for its friends to manifest their interest in the paper and the cause it advocates, either by obtaining new subscribers, or inducing others to act in its behalf. If any lose or wear out numbers in *showing the paper*,—that's the best way to get subscribers,—we will duplicate them in order to make their files complete for binding

☞ THE MONEY WE RECEIVE.—Bills on all solvent Banks in the U. S. and Canada taken at par on subscription to the RURAL, but our agents and other friends will please remit New York, New England, or Canada money, when convenient. Postage Stamps can be remitted for fractional parts of a dollar. For all amounts over $5 we prefer Drafts on either New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Albany, Rochester, or Buffalo, (less exchange,) payable to our order—and all such drafts may be mailed at the risk of the Publisher. If our friends throughout the Union, British Provinces, &c., will comply with these suggestions so far as convenient, the favor will be appreciated.

☞ ADDITIONS TO CLUBS are now in order, and whether in ones, twos, fives, tens or twenties will receive attention and be gratefully acknowledged. These small clubs, and subsequent additions to them, which must make up the great bulk of our subscription — and hence we fully appreciate the efforts of those who form the rivulets upon which we depend to swell our general circulation. Agent-Friends will please bear this in mind, and send on the names of all who will join their clubs. The hard times and panic have no doubt caused many to delay renewing or subscribing,—but they, and their families, intend to have the RURAL, and we hope our friends will afford them opportunity. Many agents are furnishing the RURAL, and taking pay in produce, &c.,—while not a few generously advance the money. In all such instances, we endeavor to be as liberal to agents as they are to subscribers.

☞ ABOUT CLUB TERMS, &c.—We endeavor to adhere strictly to our club rates, which require a certain number of subscribers to get the paper at a specified price — say ten to get it at $1,50 per copy, twenty to get it at $1,25, &c. But, in answer to frequent inquiries, (often in connection with remittances for less than a full club,) we would state that, in cases where from 4 to 6 copies are ordered at $1,50 each, with a reasonable prospect of filling up a club of ten, soon (or at least before April 1st,) we send them—and when the club is completed shall give extra copy and premium. We also send 12 to 15 copies at the rate for 20, ($1,25 per copy,) where the person sending is laboring for and confident of obtaining a full club as above. This we do on account of the hard times, and because we think the clubs will soon be filled; yet, if it were not for the panic, and high rates of exchange at the West, we should maintain the old rule — requiring the full rate in proportion to number sent, and making deduction when clubs are completed.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, April 2, 1861.

APRIL opened with one of the severest storms of the season, and, as a consequence, business was entirely checked. We cannot hear of any special change in the prices which ruled one week since, except in seeds, which have advanced somewhat. The demand has improved, and under the effect of increased sales, Clover has put on 12½@25 cents, and Timothy a like amount.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN	
Flour, winter wheat,	$4,25@6,75
Flour, spring do.,	5,00@5,00
Flour, buckwheat,	0,00@2,00
Meal, Indian	@1,12½
Wheat, Genesee,	1,10@1,30
Best white Canada,	0,00@1,36
Corn, old	00@45c
Corn, new	00@42
Rye, 60 lbs ℔ bush	60@63
Oats, by weight,	25@26
Barley,	50@55
Buckwheat,	35@40
Beans	75c@$1,00
MEATS.	
Pork, Mess	$18,50@20,00
Pork, clear	18,00@19,00
Pork, cwt	6,00@6,25
Beef, cwt	4,00@6,00
Spring lambs, each,	1,50@2,00
Mutton, carcass	4@5c
Hams, smoked	9@10
Shoulders,	6½@7
Chickens,	9@10
Turkeys	10@11
Geese,	40@50
Ducks ℔ pair	38@44
DAIRY, &c.	
Butter, roll	13@15
Butter, firkin	13@14
Cheese,	9@10
Lard, tried	10@10
Tallow, rough	0@6
Tallow, tried	8@8

Eggs, dozen	11@12c
Honey, box	12@14
Candles, box	11½@12
Candles, extra	13@13½
FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Apples, bushel	25@31c
Apples, dried, ℔ lb	3½@3
Peaches, dried, ℔ lb	9@10
Cherries, dried,	00@10
Plums, dried	00@10
Potatoes	40@50
HIDES AND SKINS.	
Slaughter,	4@4½
Calf,	7@7
Sheep Pelts,	50@163c
Lamb Pelts,	50@88
SEEDS.	
Clover, bushel	$4,00@4,25
Timothy,	2,50@3,00
SUNDRIES.	
Wood, hard	$3,00@5,00
Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Coal, Scranton	5,75@6,00
Coal, Pittston	5,75@6,00
Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6,00
Coal, Char	10@12½
Salt, bbl	1,70@1,75
Hay, ton	8,00@11,00
Straw, ton	0,00@0,00
Wool, ℔ lb	30@50c
Whitefish, half bbl	4,25@4,50
Codfish, ℔ quintal	4,00@5,00
Trout, half bbl	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, April 1 — FLOUR — Market 5@10 cents better — Sales at $5,25@5,35 for super State, $5,45@5,55 for extra do, $5,25@5,35 for super fine Western, $5,45@5,65 for common to medium extra do, $5,65@5,75 for inferior to good extra round hoop Ohio Canadian a shade firmer, sales at $5,45@7,00.

GRAIN—Wheat, market 1@2c better, with a moderate export demand, sales fair Chicago spring at $1,25; Milwaukee club at $1,30, amber Iowa at $1,34, winter red Western at $1,34@1,38. Rye quiet at 65@66c. Barley dull at 72@80c. Corn, market a trifle better, sales at 68@70c for old mixed Western, in store and delivered, and 62@64c for new do Oats dull at 33@34½c for State, Western and Canada.

PROVISIONS—Pork quiet and steady, sales at $16,88 for mess, $12,50@12,75 for prime. Lard steady; sales at 9@10c. Butter in fair request at 10@14c for Ohio, and 14@19c for State. Cheese steady at 8@10c.

ASHES—The demand for both kinds is fair, and the market is steady, sales of Pots at $5,25@5,31¼, and Pearls $5,31¼.

HOPS—The market is quiet, but prices are without quotable variation, small sales to brewers at 20@28c.

SEEDS—The inquiry for Clover Seed is fair, and the market is firm sales of 170 bags, at 8c. Timothy Seed is quiet, at $3,25@3,50 ℔ bushel.

ALBANY, April 1—FLOUR AND MEAL—There is a moderate business doing in Flour, at an advance of 10c ℔ bbl. on the current prices of the 28th ult. Corn meal unchanged.

Common to good State,	$5,10@5,20
Fancy and extra State,	5,25@5,35
Common to good Western,	5,25@5,75
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.,	5,85@7,10
Extra Ohio,	6,10@7,10
Common Canadian,	5,50@5,70
Extra Canadian,	5,85@7,10
Fancy Genesee,	6,10@6,10
Extra Genesee and city brands,	6,10@7,35
Extra Kentucky,	6,60@7,10

Corn meal is in moderate request at $1,25@1,37½ ℔ 100 lbs.

GRAIN—Wheat, sales of red winter State at $1,30c, white Canadian at $1,50, which is a slight improvement. Corn firm, sales round yellow at 57c for new and 58c for old. Barley in request, with sales four-rowed State at 68c; Canada West 75c.— Oats firm and in request. Sales State at 32@32½c, here and delivered.

SEEDS—A steady but quiet market for both Clover and Timothy seed.

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality,	$8,50@9,25
Ordinary quality,	7,75@8,25
Common quality,	7,00@7,50
Inferior quality,	6,00@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality,	$55,00@60,00
Ordinary quality,	40,00@50,00
Common quality,	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality,	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ℔ lb	6½@7½c
Ordinary quality,	5½@6 c
Common quality,	4 @5 c
Inferior quality,	3½@4 c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality,	$6,00@9,00
Ordinary quality,	4,50@5,50
Common quality,	4,00@4,50
Inferior quality,	3,25@3,75
SWINE.	
First quality,	5½@5¾c
Other qualities,	4½@5 c

ALBANY, April 1.—BEEVES—Although there are some 800 Beeves in market less this week than last, there are still too many, and we have no improvement to notice. With upwards of 3,600 head in the several yards, it was not to be expected that trade would be very active under any circumstances, but when to this is added the fact that the losses in the New York market last Tuesday and Wednesday were almost unprecedented—average all around at $6 to $10 ℔ head—a sluggish market and low prices now disappointed nobody. The average quality too is lower to-day than a week ago, and this tends somewhat towards checking operations.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor week last year.
Cattle,	3,555	4,513	3,281
Sheep,	3,090	4,710	3,312
Hogs,	42	70	766

PRICES—There is little occasion for alterations. What few lots have changed hands were sold about last week's rates

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	@ c	4½@5 c
Extra	4½@4¾c	4½@4¾c
First quality	3½@4 c	3½@4 c
Second quality	3 @	@3 c
Third quality	0 @2½c	@2½c

SHEEP—We have no sales to report. Although there is a falling off of some 1,700 in the receipts, buyers say that they cannot and will not give within 25c ℔ 100 lbs. of the ruling prices some days ago.—*Argus and Atlas*

BRIGHTON, March 28.—At market —1,800 Beef Cattle, 90 Stores, 2,900 Sheep and Lambs, and 1,404 Swine.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $7,00@0,00, 1st quality, $6,75@0,00, 2d do, $6,00@6,00, 3d do. $4,50@5,00.

WORKING OXEN—$85, $90@130

MILCH COWS—$45@50, common, $20@21.

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@5,00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two-years old, $15@16, three years old, $16@18

HIDES—4½@5c ℔ lb,

CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

TALLOW—5½@7c. ℔ lb.

PELTS—$1,00@1,25 each

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,25@2,00, extra, $3,00@4,00.

SWINE—Store, wholesale, 6@7c, retail, 7@8c. Fat Hogs, undressed, still fed, 0c.

CAMBRIDGE, March 27.—At market 806 cattle, about 700 beeves and 106 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $6,50@7,00; first quality, $6,00@6,25, second quality, $5,50@0,00, third quality, $4,00, ordinary quality, $0,00

WORKING OXEN—$75@190

COWS AND CALVES—$25, $40@60.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two years old, $18@16, three years old, $17@19.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—2,400 at market. Prices—In lots $1,50, @2,00, extra and selections, $2,50@3,50 each.

PELTS—$1,00@1,25 each.

TALLOW—5½@7c ℔ lb.

HIDES—4½@5c. ℔ lb. CALF SKINS—10@11c ℔ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$3@6.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The market is still dull, and without signs of improvement. The few sales that are making are in very small lots, and generally reported on private terms, but the prices obtained are undoubtedly below the quoted rates. The sales since our last include some 8,000 lbs domestic fleece, 4,600 lbs pulled wools, and 6,000 lbs California. Foreign wools are very dull and we do not hear of any sales. The Boston wool market has been rather more active during the week, but prices are lower. We notice sale of some 40,000 lbs domestic fleece, but the terms were not made public. Our quotations given below are little better than nominal.

American Saxony Fleece, ℔ lb,	45@48
American full-blood Merino,	41@44
American half-blood and three-fourths Merino,	36@40
American Native and one-fourth Merino,	33@35
Extra Pulled,	35@37
Superfine, Pulled,	31@33
No 1, Pulled,	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled,	28@30
California, extra,	00@00
California, fine, unwashed,	12@36
California, common do,	12@20
Peruvian, washed,	25@30
Valparaiso, unwashed,	—@—
South American Mes., unwashed,	16@21
South American Merino, unwashed,	21@23
South American, common washed,	13@15
South American Entre Rios, do,	13@15
South American, unwashed,	8@10
South American Cordova, washed,	19@22
Cape Good Hope unwashed,	23@25
East India, washed,	10@30
African, unwashed,	—@—
African, washed,	—@—
Smyrna, unwashed,	10@18
Smyrna, washed,	23@26
Mexican, unwashed,	—@—

[N. Y. *Evening Post.*

BOSTON, March 30.—There continues to be a fair demand for fleece and pulled wool, sales at prices in the range of quoted rates.

Saxony and Merino, fine,	48@55	Western mixed,	20@30
Full blood,	44@47	Smyrna, washed,	16@26
¾ and ½ blood,	38@43	Do. unwashed,	9@17
Common,	30@33	Syrian,	10@23
Pulled, extra,	40@48	Cape,	19@30
Do. Superfine,	33@40	Crimea,	9@17
Do. No 1,	25@33	Buenos Ayres,	9@45
Do. No. 2,	16@25	Peruvian, washed,	25@30

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance — THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line

☞ THE RURAL NEW-YORKER commenced its Twelfth Year and Volume with an edition of over SEVENTY THOUSAND! Though the columns are wider than formerly (giving more words per line,) and the circulation much larger, we do not purpose to increase the Advertising Rates at present. The RURAL is undoubtedly the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its Class in America—for, in addition to its immense circulation among the most enterprising and successful Farmers and Horticulturists, it is taken and read by thousands of Merchants, Mechanics, Manufacturers and Professional Men.

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THE RIGHT KIND of WATER PIPE is the Wooden Pipe made by I. S. HOBBIE, Rochester, N Y. The writer in RURAL of March 30 (page 102) ought to be posted on the subject if he has read the paper heretofore. It is just the pipe to convey water for any purpose, a long or short distance. All who want pipe, and don't yet know which kind is best, and *cheapest*, will please send for circular

FARM FOR SALE.—The subscriber offers for sale a farm containing about 60 acres, lying within a mile of Palmyra village, and about half a mile from the RR Station. The land is of good quality, and well improved. The buildings are very comfortable, but not first class. Price $3,700, $700 down, or secured to be paid in a short time, $1 000 within two or three years, the residue can remain unpaid for a term of years. Possession given when required, but the present occupant will be glad to rent the farm for one or more years. For further particulars, address ALEX. H. GRANT, Palmyra, N. Y.

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Horse Powers, Dog Powers, Seed Planters, &c. Circulars sent free. Address CHAS. E. PEASE,
586-4t 54 State St., Albany, N. Y.

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STONE MILLS, Jeff. Co., N. Y., March 17, 1861

G. WESTINGHOUSE & Co.—The machine I bought of you last September, worked well. I threshed for one of my neighbors one hundred bushels of wheat in 2¾ hours. The wheat was extra good and not very long straw. I think there will be quite a call for your machines from this way next fall. The Cleaner is the best there ever was in this country.

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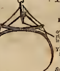

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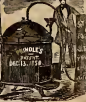

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CONSOLATION.

Thou'rt down, low down, poor heart—
At bottom of the hill;
The prudent friends who knew thee,
When Fortune seemed to woo thee,
Are true to Fortune still.
So deeply art thou fallen,
Who once did soar so high,
That beggars of thy beauty
Look proud, and pass thee by;
And former boon companions
Whisper thy name and frown—
"The ways of Heaven are righteous,
So—kick him—he is down!"

And yet, though down, poor heart—
This consolation's thine—
Thy Conscience still befriends thee,
And kindly message sends thee
To bear, and not repine.
The sun that lights the ocean,
Shines also on the mire;
The mole hill and the mountain
Alike receive its fire
The humblest dewy daisy,
That blossoms on the sod,
May point, like the pine tree, skyward,
And drink the light of God. *London Review.*

The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

CHARLEY HOLMES;
OR
THE CONSEQUENCES OF INDECISION.

BY MRS. M. A. LATHROP.

CHAPTER I.

It was a beautiful morning in spring, when Charley filled his dinner basket, received his usual kiss with the injunction to be a good boy, and started for school. The birds were flitting around him on every side, pouring forth such a gush of music that it seemed as if their little throats would burst, kittens were frisking about open doors in the sunshine, hens were cackling, cocks were crowing, and even the sedate old cows appeared to catch the spirit of general rejoicing, and sent forth their prolonged notes in concert with the rest. Charley was happy, too, and whistled. Turning a corner in the road, he saw two boys, not far ahead of him, sitting in the corner of the fence. A fish-pole lay between them, and when they saw Charley approaching, they whispered slily; then starting up, one said,

"See here, Charley,—" and as he spoke, he opened a box of crawling angle worms.

"What are you going to do?" asked Charley.

"Oh yes, you'd like to go and tell, wouldn't you?" said David Eddy, the larger boy.

"I know now," retorted Charley,—"you are going a fishing."

"Well, what if we are; whose business is it?" replied Hiram Soles, a hard looking fellow; and as he spoke, he jammed the box of worms down into his pant's pocket, where were safely deposited nutcakes, rusty nails, strings, and fishhooks.

"Mr. Noah, the teacher, might think it was his, if he should find it out; for it's school time now," said Charley.

At this, Hiram laughed aloud, and said, "Let old Noah and his bipeds stick on Mount Ararat; we'll abide by the waters; come on, Dave."

David took up his pole and said, "Come, Charley, it's too late for school, and if you aint afraid of your ma, you had better go, too."

Charley had determined that very morning to be a "real good boy," but now he began to parley with his conscience, which said, "Go to school;" and as he stood whirling his satchel and letting it untwist, these wicked boys continued to laugh at him, calling him "a little ninny," and various other provoking names, till he yielded to the temptation, and went, crouching behind old boxes and barrels, and down back roads and lanes, to avoid the eyes of his father, till he was fairly out of sight, and on the way to the river. When he reached it he felt quite like sitting down, and as he had had the promise of the pole, he took it and commenced fishing. The boys, however, soon wished to go on farther, and demanded the pole, which Charley was not willing to give up, and a pretty hard quarrel followed, which ended in his being pushed from the log into the water. This cooled him off considerably, and he was quite willing to give up the contest.

Charley had expected a good time, but so far he had not been happy a moment—and he determined, wet as he was, to follow on and overtake his companions. When he came up, a few growls passed back and forth, but they were soon forgotten, and the three truants were as good friends again as ever.

Coming in sight of the canal, they observed upon one of the horses attached to a boat, a poor, ragged little driver, whose forlorn and sickly appearance was enough to make a person weep; yet Hiram immediately called out, "Come on, boys, let us have some fun with that little rag-bag;" and handing from his filthy pocket one of his "nutcakes," told David to reach it to the driver, while he, from the other side, would trip him from his horse.

Charley was shocked, and begged of them to let the little boy alone; but they only made faces at him, and by the time he reached the canal, the boy was not only thrown from the horse, but actually at the bottom of the water. Then followed great confusion,—the giving of orders, the screaming of the passengers, and the setting of the poles; while one man jumped ashore to place himself in a position to catch "little Willie," as they called him, when he should come up. Hiram and David were terrified with guilt—and supposing that the man was, of course, after them, fled, as the wicked often do when no man pursueth, and were not heard from again that day.

In the meantime the boat moved up, Willie was not found, and all hope of saving him was gone. Charley sank down upon the ground, covered his face with his hands, and wished most heartily that he had gone to school. Hearing some one say, "They have got him!" he jumped up, and running forward, saw the poor boy hanging limberly upon a man's arm with the water pouring from his mouth, hair, and rags. A chill of horror ran through Charley's frame as he followed down into the cabin, and saw the energetic efforts of those who labored to bring back the life which seemed extinct. Meanwhile another driver had taken the horses, and trotting them rapidly, only a short time passed before they reached the village, where they called in a physician. Every one looked anxiously into his face as he laid his fingers upon the cold, wet wrist, and to their many inquiries he only said, as he shook his head solemnly, "I'm afraid he is dead."

Among the crowd who rushed upon the boat to see the drowned boy, Charley discovered his father, who was so intent upon doing something to resuscitate the driver, that he did not, at first, notice him. At length his eyes fell upon him, and he started in surprise; for he had heard that the boy had been pushed into the canal by truant school boys, and he now greatly feared that Charley was one of them.

Perhaps that was one reason why he sent in such a hurry for Dr. Sullivan, an older physician, and labored so untiringly over the poor boy, himself.

For a long time nothing which was done seemed of any use; and when all began to give up in despair, faint signs of life revived their hopes. The doctor then ordered the boat to be cleared of the crowd, and Mr. Holmes motioning to Charley to follow, went ashore. As they walked home, Charley freely confessed all of his disobedience to his father; for he was too penitent now to wish to conceal or cover his sin. His mother was greatly pained when her dear son appeared before her, with his soiled and wet garments, and his face indicating guilt and shame; but especially did she weep for the poor driver, who, her husband informed her, was the son of a clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Fenton, who died, leaving Willie alone in the world; and as his friends had failed to come for him, as had been expected, the poor boy was obliged to go upon the canal for a living. Sickness had followed exposure and abuse, and he had but that day crawled from the straw in the stable to resume the unpleasant labor of his calling.

Charley wept bitterly, and promising future obedience, begged of his mother to forgive him. This she would not promise to do, as he had so often deceived her, but sent him into the nursery to change his clothes. As he entered the room, he was grieved to see upon the bed his little sister Nellie, whose feverish face showed at once that she was sick. As he bent over her, she opened her eyes languidly, laid her hand upon his face and said, "Nellie's sick." In answer to his inquiries, his mother informed him that Nellie had the measles, and had been sleepy and stupid all day. Charley had often said that he loved her better than he did himself, and now he was half inclined to believe that the sickness was sent on account of his own sin, which started his tears afresh.

When Mrs. Holmes learned of Willie's destitution, she readily complied with Charley's wish, and took from his wardrobe two shirts, a pair of pants, and a cloth round-a-bout, which he gladly carried to the boat,—but as Willie was asleep, he returned disappointed that he was not allowed to see and speak to him.

That evening, as Mr. Holmes gathered his family around the cheerful fire, he endeavored to impress upon Charley, from his day's experience, the importance of acting quickly when the right was plain, assuring him that if he stopped to parley with sin, he would surely fall.

CHAPTER II.

The officers, with Hiram and David, were early at Mr. Holmes' door the next morning, and as Charley opened it, they said,

"We are ordered to take you to the Court House this morning, for I believe you had a hand in pushing that boy into the canal yesterday."

"Yes," replied Hiram, "he is the one who did it; we didn't do any thing."

"That's so," chimed in David.

Mr. Holmes assured them that he would be down with his son after breakfast, to which they made no objection, and the family were soon seated at the table. Charley could eat nothing, and his father seeing his distress, told him that he hoped the lesson he was learning would convince him that his parents were his safest advisers, and that he could never place confidence in boys who were trying to lead him from what he knew to be right. Then charging him to speak the truth that day, he took his hat to go. Charley kissed his mother, and after one more look at his little, suffering sister, who was now much worse, left the house. It was found that he was called more for a witness than any thing else, and from the clear and open manner in which he made his statements, it was evident to all that he was speaking the truth.

The evidence against Hiram and David was sufficient, and as they had long been a trouble to the village and a snare to other boys, other charges were brought and proven, and before twelve o'clock that day, these two unprincipled fellows were on their way to the House of Refuge, where they were to be confined, and made to work, till they should be thought fit to appear again in the world.

For several days following these events, little Nellie continued to sink under disease, and the hope of her recovery nearly died out in each aching, loving heart. Hour after hour Charley hung around her bed, anxious to do something for her relief, or to soothe the anguish that was weighing down his mother. Putting his arm around her neck, as she sat with tear-wet cheeks looking so sadly into the half open eyes of Nellie, he smoothed back her hair, and kissed her forehead, thinking only of the sorrow his wicked course had caused her. She drew him upon her lap, and there, in a long and confiding talk, Charley promised to do only those things which would please his parents and his God.

A slight move by Nellie, brought each one by the bed-side. Her large blue eyes were open, and with a strange bewildered look, she gazed intently upon her mother's face. It was the first look of recognition she had given for many days, and with new hope, Mrs. Holmes bent caressingly down, saying, gently,

"Nellie, dear little Nellie, does she know mother?"

Hearing her father speak, she turned her eyes upon him, but with such an expression that he felt it was but a farewell before her angel guards should bear her back to God who gave her. Not so with Charley; his tears were speedily dried, and with a bright and happy face, he exclaimed,

"Oh, she is getting well! Sister, dear sister! Oh mother, see how she looks at me!"

"Do not frighten her, my child," said his mother, gently drawing him back; "she may be only poising upon her wing to give us a parting look."

Nellie readily took some refreshment from a spoon, after which, appearing tired, she closed her eyes and fell into a gentle slumber. The doctor called often through the day, and as no change for the worse appeared, all began to hope that the crisis was past, and that she would soon be well. Charley retired that night with the confident expectation that she would not only look at him again in the morning, but greet him with a smile of joy; and when the rosy light of the new born day aroused him from his sleep and pleasant dreams, he listened to foot-steps which appeared to be approaching his door, then partly raising himself, he leaned upon his elbow as his mother entered.

"How is Nellie, mother?" was the first inquiry; and Charley critically scanned her face for an answer. Mrs. Holmes seated herself upon the bed, and taking one of his hands, said,

"God sent his angels for her last night, and they have taken her away."

For some time their tears mingled freely over their sad bereavement, but becoming more composed, Mrs. Holmes said,

"Dress yourself, my son, and go down and see her. She cannot see you, but she is with the dear Savior and the blessed angels, where we may hope to meet her."

As they passed through the front hall into the parlor—where upon a sofa lay the dear form of the little sleeper—Charley's knees seemed to be giving way under him, and he held tightly to his mother's hand. The long damask curtains fell in rich folds before the partly opened windows, and gently waved in the morning air, wafting sweet fragrance from the vases of freshly gathered flowers which stood upon the table, while tiny rose buds lay scattered upon Nellie's pillow. With a trembling hand Mrs. Holmes removed the cloth, and exposed the sweet and placid features of the dear one, and for a moment Charley gazed in silence; then throwing his arms across her cold body, he kissed her lips, calling her his dear, dear sister. It was in vain that his mother tried to comfort him by saying that Nellie was now a little lamb in the good Shepherd's bosom, freed from all pain and sickness; he paid no attention, but stretching himself upon the floor, wept aloud. Sad were the days for him that followed; especially so was that in which he saw the dear body of his sister laid away to rest, where it was to remain till Christ shall come to wake and call the sleepers home. At length, time, that great extractor of human pain, bound up Charley's wounded heart, and as weeks and months went by, he grew cheerful and happy. [To be continued.]

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

HISTORICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 36 letters.

My 6, 21, 16, 28, 14, 4 was a Trojan hero
My 21, 36, 36, 16, 12, 20 was an early Roman poet.
My 23, 30, 10, 11, 12, 20, 12, 4 was a Grecian philosopher.
My 29, 12, 20, 28, 3, 32 was a Roman consul.
My 29, 14, 20, 34, 12, 4 was a Roman general
My 1, 32, 21, 26, 6, 20 was the first Roman emperor.
My 26, 16, 10, 10, 16, 12, 20 was a brave Roman soldier.
My 29, 23, 31, 6, 4, 15, 6, 26, 34, 6 was a celebrated Italian poet.
My 32, 24, 32, 1, 20, 23, 2, 7 was a famous lyric poet who flourished in the 6th century B. C.
My 16, 16, 26, 16, 26, 5, 20, 6, 25, 12, 20 was a tyrant of Athens.
My 21, 19, 34, 11, 27, 23, 32, 12, 4 was a philosopher of Phrygia.
My 26, 13, 6, 20, 6, 32 was one of the most powerful States of Ancient Greece
My 22, 23, 34, 34 was a very ancient city of Etruria.
My 20, 17, 20, 28 was the most celebrated city of ancient times.
My 26, 1, 34, 13, 16, 35 was a great general, conqueror of Carthage.
My whole is an old proverb.

New Haven, Conn., 1861. NETTIE.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I am composed of 11 letters.

My 1, 4, 5 is much used by farmers.
My 2, 8, 9, 1 is an obligation.
My 3, 6, 7 is an important and useful diagram.
My 4, 6 is a dipthong
My 5, 11, 6 is a [illegible] the understanding.
My 6 is a vowel.
My 7, 2, 3, 8, 9, 6 is an excellent root.
My 8, 7, 6 is an animal.
My 9, 6, 3 is a nick name much used.
My 10, 8, 11 is the beard of mother earth
My 11, 8, 3 is a root much in use.
My whole is the name of a science.

Rochester, N. Y., 1861. L. EMBURY DARE.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A PUZZLE.

The following puzzle was given me for solution by a friend several years ago. It is supposed to have been invented by Dr. Franklin, and goes by the name of "Franklin's Magic Square." Perhaps it will be new to a number of the young readers of your paper, and if you think it worthy, and have not yet published it, you may insert it in the Rural. Here it is:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

Take the above figures and form them into square, so that by adding any three of them together, in any way you choose, the amount will be *fifteen.*

Glendale, Ohio, 1861. JERRY COCHRAN.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker

ALGEBRAICAL PROBLEM.

Find two numbers, such that the difference of their squares is equal to their product, minus one, and the sum of their squares is equal to one, plus the square of the less multiplied by the greater.

Tuscarora, N. Y., 1861. G. H. HOLLIS.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 584.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma:—Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

Answer to Puzzle:—Level.

Answer to Algebraical Enigma.—The sides of the meadow are 16.60510 + and 61.61799 + rods.

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Over $100,000,000 of private capital have been expended on the railways of Illinois. Inasmuch as part of the income from several these works, with a valuable public fund in lands, go to diminish the State expenses, the taxes are light, and must consequently every day decrease.

THE STATE DEBT.

The State Debt is only $10,105,398, 14, and within the last three years has been reduced $2,959,746 80, and we may reasonably expect that in ten years it will become extinct.

PRESENT POPULATION.

The State is rapidly filling up with population; 868,025 persons having been added since 1850, making the present population 1,723,663, a ratio of 102 per cent. in ten years.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The Agricultural products of Illinois are greater than those of any other State. The products sent out during the past year exceeded 1,500,000 tons. The wheat crop of 1860 approaches 35,000,000 bushels, while the corn crop yields not less than 140,000,000 bushels.

FERTILITY OF THE SOIL.

Nowhere can the industrious farmer secure such immediate results for his labor as upon these prairie soils, they being composed of a deep rich loam, the fertility of which, is unsurpassed by any on the globe.

TO ACTUAL CULTIVATORS.

Since 1854, the company have sold 1,300,000 acres. They sell only to actual cultivators, and every contract contains an agreement to cultivate. The road has been constructed thro' these lands at an expense of $30,000,000. In 1850 the population of the forty-nine counties through which it passes was only 335,598; since which 479,293 have been added, making the whole population 814,891, a gain of 143 per cent.

EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY.

As an evidence of the thrift of the people, it may be stated that 600,000 tons of freight, including 8,600,000 bushels of grain, and 250,000 barrels of flour, were forwarded over the line last year.

EDUCATION.

Mechanics and workingmen will find the free school system encouraged by the State, and endowed with a large revenue for the support of schools. Their children can live in sight of the church and schoolhouse and grow with the prosperity of the leading State in the Great Western Empire.

PRICES AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The prices of these lands vary from $6 to $25 per acre according to location, quality, &c. First-class farming lands sell for about $10 or $12 per acre; and the relative expense of subduing prairie land as compared with wood lands is in the ratio of 1 to 10 in favor of the former. The terms of sale for the bulk of these lands will be

One Year's Interest in advance,

at six per ct. per annum, and six interest notes at six per ct. payable respectively in one, two, three, four, five and six years from date of sale, and four notes for principal, payable in four, five, six and seven years from date of sale; the contract stipulating that one-tenth of the tract purchased shall be fenced and cultivated, each and every year, for five years from date of sale, so that at the end of five years, one-half shall be fenced and under cultivation.

Twenty Per Cent. will be deducted

from the valuation for cash, except the same should be at six dollars per acre, when the cash price will be five dollars.

Pamphlets descriptive of the lands, soil, climate, productions, prices and terms of payment, can be had on application to

J. W. FOSTER, Land Commissioner, Chicago, Illinois.

For the names of the Towns, Villages and Cities situated upon the Illinois Central Railroad see pages 188, 189, 190, APPLETON'S RAILWAY GUIDE.